



Division BX9E 68
Section P8A2
1873-82

NINTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

✓ REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

In General Convention,

AT

WAYNESBORO, PA., OCTOBER, 1881.

PHILADELPHIA:

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, 907 ARCH STREET.
1881.

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Ninth Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States at its Annual Sessions, convened in General Convention, in Waynesboro, Pa., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-One. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the nineteenth and continued until the twenty-fifth day of the month, inclusive, at noon.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in General Convention, on Wednesday evening, October 19th, A. D. 1881, at 7 o'clock, in Trinity Reformed Church of Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pa., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with appropriate religious services. The President of the previous year, G. W. Martin, D. D., preached the opening sermon from Matt. 16: 18—"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.*

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers:—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., Reinhart R. Smith, Aaron Spangler, Francis S. Lindaman, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., Moses Kieffer, D. D., Andrew J. Heller, George W. Glessner, D. D., John Kretzing, J. Marion Mickley, Amos H. Kremer, D. D., Frederiek J. Sauerber, Silas F. Laury, Henry T. Spangler, David N. Dittmar, George E. Addams, Henry Hilbush, David U. Wolff, Aaron Wanner, D. D., and Walter E. Krebs

Elders:—Samuel Crist, Henry Winebrenner, Aaron Raab, C. Augustus Woltman, John Bixler, George Hollinger, Samuel Wolf, Samuel R. Weaver, George S. Brodbeck, John Hager, Peter Hoover, David Kump, Charles A. Shultz, Martin Thomas, Solomon Snyder, William Wagner, Daniel Stambaugh, and Louis H. Koeh.

* A considerable number of the members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session. Hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would appear, had they been present at the first roll-call.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers:—George L. Staley, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, Nehemiah H. Skyles, Henry Wissler, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Ambrose C. Geary, John G. Noss, William Rupp, Leighton G. Kremer, Marion L. Firor, Conrad Clever, Charles F. Sontag, William A. Gring, the licentiate George M. Zacharias, Joel T. Rossiter, J. Spangler Kieffer, Joseph W. Santee, D. D., Silas M. Hench, and P. Allison Long.

Elders:—Joseph Seibert, Ezra Williard, Edward D. Zimmerman, George M. Harbaugh, Alexander Weaver, William A. Hagerman, Frederick Yost, John M. Hoffman, Jacob H. Hinea, William W. Lesh, J. Taylor Motter, Goldsboro S. Griffith, Peter Middlekauff, Jacob Sellers, Henry S. Zeller, Mellville E. Doll, and George Harbaugh.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers:—William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, Henry Miller, Jacob Hassler, David M. Whitmore, William I. Stewart, Isaac M. Motter, William C. Cremer, Franklin F. Bahner, Henry F. Long, Henry S. Garner, J. Alvin Reber, John M. Titzel, William H. Herbert, Cyrus J. Musser, Cyrus Cort, Calvin S. Slagle, George B. Russell, D. D., Albert G. Dole, Milton H. Sangree, Daniel H. Leader, the licentiate Albert A. Black, and J. David Miller.

Elders:—John P. Reed, Esq., James Rawlings, Abraham Kieffer, David B. Russell, Conrad Glazer, George L. Freet, Henry Stine, Daniel S. Barnhart, Adam Shellhase, Isaac H. Keefer, Benjamin Neff, Henry O. Neal, J. Raum Pague, Samuel Omwake, Henry Mickly, Henry Omwake, and William Dice.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers:—George H. Martin, D. D., Henry St. J. Rinker, John A. Hoffheins, Anderson J. Whitmore, Samuel L. Whitmore, Abner R. Kremer, Barton R. Carnahan, and John C. Bowman.

Elders:—George P. Souder, John R. Lantz, John Fitz, George Rosen, Richard W. Kearns, Levi Rinker, Emanuel Staley, Philip P. Hamman, and Henry J. Seibert.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

None present.

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

None present.

VII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

None present.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

Theodore Appel, D. D., George W. Aughinbaugh, D. D., and Rev. Charles G. Fisher of the Synod of the Reformed Church in

the United States, Rev. John W. Rauch of the Ohio Synod, Elder David Schriver of Zion's Classis, and Elders Andrew R. Schnebly, Jacob Heyser, John Bowman, and Samuel B. Snively of Mercersburg Classis.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of Rev. Dr. Bergstresser, of the Lutheran Church, and Revs. Messrs. Dunkerle and Wilcox, of the Methodist Church, was announced.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. I. G. Brown, *President*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Rev. A. H. Kremer, *Vice-President*, Carlisle, Pa.

Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, *Corresponding Secretary*, Middletown, Md.

Elder Louis Markell, *Treasurer*, Frederick, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

In view of the appointment by the late General Synod of a committee to prepare Rules of Order for the government of the several judicatories of the Reformed Church, in their meetings, it was deemed unnecessary to take action on the Report of the Committee on Rules of Order, which was received at the last meeting of Synod, except in so far as to refer said report to the General Synod's Committee on Rules of Order. The reading of the Rules of Order was dispensed with, and the limits constituting the *Bar of the House* were defined to consist of the first six pews from the chancel railing.

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the current sessions of the Synod, to wit :

The forenoon session to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock; the afternoon session to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock. An evening session was held on Monday evening, beginning at 7 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The President appointed the following Standing Committees, to wit :

Religious Services: Revs. F. F. Bahner, I. M. Motter, H. Miller, N. H. Skyles, and Elders D. B. Russell, H. Stine, and E. D. Zimmerman.

Minutes of Synod: Revs. W. M. Deatrick, A. Spangler, A. C. Geary, M. L. Firor, and Elders C. A. Woltman, J. Rawlings, and G. M. Harbaugh.

Minutes of General Synod: Revs. S. S. Miller, F. S. Lindaman, C. Cort, H. T. Spangler, and Elders S. R. Weaver, W. A. Hagerman, and J. Bixler.

Overtures: Revs. J. Hassler, R. R. Smith, F. J. Sauerber, L. G. Kremer, and Elders G. L. Freet, A. Weaver, and A. Raab.

Minutes of Classes: Revs. H. St. J. Rinker, J. Kretzing, J. G. Noss, J. A. Reber, and Elders S. Wolf, W. W. Lesh, and C. Glazer.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination: Revs. Drs. Glessner, Kieffer, Kremer, Staley, and Elders A. Kieffer, G. P. Souder, and E. Williard.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports: Revs. Dr. Martin, Dr. Weisz, J. M. Mickley, D. M. Whitmore, and Elders S. Crist, J. Seibert, and P. Hoover.

Education: Revs. W. A. Gring, Dr. Miller, W. C. Cremer, C. F. Sontag, and Elders J. Hager, J. R. Lantz, and F. Yost.

Missions: Revs. J. M. Titzel, Dr. Eschbach, C. Cort, H. S. Garner, and Elders J. P. Reed, J. H. Hinea, and D. S. Barnhart.

Publication: Revs. W. Rupp, W. Goodrich, Dr. Eschbach, S. F. Laury, and Elders J. M. Hoffman, G. Hollinger, and G. Rosen.

Finance: Revs. A. J. Heller, J. A. Hoffheins, S. L. Whitmore, W. H. Herbert, and Elders C. A. Shultz, J. T. Motter, and A. Shellhase.

Nominations: Revs. T. F. Hoffmeier, D. N. Dittmar, C. Clever, A. J. Whitmore, and Elders J. Fritz, G. S. Brodbeck, and H. Winebrenner.

Ministerial Necrology: Revs. H. Wissler, A. R. Kremer, W. I. Stewart, H. F. Long, and Elders I. H. Keefer, D. B. Russell, and S. Crist.

ARTICLE VI. COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, San Francisco, and Portland-Oregon, were received, and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on those subjects

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Annual Report of the Board of Education was laid before the Synod and read, and was then referred to the Standing Committee on Education for consideration.

4. The Annual Reports of the Board of Visitors and Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary were received and read, and then referred to the same committee, for the same purpose.

5. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, were received and severally read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for consideration.

6. The Annual Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College was received, read and acted on by the Synod without reference.

7. The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board was laid before the Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Publication for consideration.

8. The Annual Report of the Sunday-school Board was presented to Synod, read and disposed of without reference.

9. Ten other communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following religious services, to wit:

1. The sessions of each day were opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on Religious Services reported, which was received and adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Religious Services would respectfully report as follows:

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services: Sermon by Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, assisted by Revs. W. C. Cremer and S. S. Miller. Liturgical service by Rev. L. G. Kreiner.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. H. Hilbish, assisted by Revs. J. M. Mickly and N. H. Skyles.

Sunday Morning.—Synodical Communion: Sermon by Rev. Dr. Weisz, assisted by Revs. A. G. Dole and A. Spangler. Liturgical services by the President and Stated Clerk of Synod.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school Services; addresses by Revs. Dr. Kremer, G. E. Addams and F. J. Sauerber.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. C. Clever, assisted by Revs. S. M. Hench and D. U. Wolff.

ST. PAUL'S REFORMED CHURCH.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services: Sermon by Rev. J. M. Titzel. Liturgical services by Revs. D. N. Dittmar and J. C. Bowman.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. A. Hoffheins. Liturgical services by Revs. C. F. Sontag and B. R. Carnahan.

Sunday Morning.—Communion services: Sermon by Rev. Dr. Eschbach. Liturgical services by Revs. J. T. Rossiter and A. J. Heller.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services; addresses by Revs. J. Hassler, N. H. Skyles and W. Goodrich.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. F. J. Sauerber. Liturgical services by Revs. M. L. Firor and W. A. Gring.

OTHER CHURCHES.

Lutheran Church.—Sunday Morning, Rev. J. M. Titzel; Sunday Evening, Rev. W. Goodrich.

Presbyterian Church.—Sunday Morning, Rev. H. T. Spangler; Sunday Evening, Rev. Dr. Kieffer.

Methodist Church.—Sunday Morning, Rev. Dr. Staley; Sunday Evening, Rev. J. D. Miller.

Respectfully submitted,

F. F. BAUER, Chairman.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly before the Synod was dispensed with, and the printed "Acts and Proceedings" of the last Annual Sessions of the Synod were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business that properly claimed the attention of this meeting of the Synod. During the session of Friday morning, this Committee submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Printed Minutes of the Synod of last year, after a careful perusal of them, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business, as, in their judgment, requiring the consideration of the present sessions of the Synod, namely:

Item 1, page 6. After receiving the Report of the Special Committee on the Revision of our Rules of Order, and ordering the Report to be incorporated in the Minutes, further action thereon was postponed until the present annual meeting of the Synod.

Item 2, page 12. A Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology was appointed, whose duty it will be to report at this meeting of the Synod; of which Committee Rev. I. S. Weisz is Chairman.

Item 3, page 31. The Stated Clerk was instructed to communicate to Zion's Classis certain action, having reference to Beneficiary Education, and requesting earnestly said Classis to co-operate with the Board of Education, and to carry on its beneficiary operations, through said Board, in compliance with the Constitution of our Church.

Item 4, page 36. Certain action of the last Synod, in reference to Mercersburg College, in the form of a preamble and resolutions.

Item 5, page 36. It will be necessary for the Synod to fill by election the vacancies that will take place, at the close of the present sessions of the Synod, in the Board of Education, by the expiration of the term of service of Revs. I. G. Brown, W. C. Cremer, and S. N. Callender.

Item 6, page 37. It will be the duty of the Synod to fill by election the vacancies about to occur in the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, of the following members, whose term of office expires during the present month, viz.: Revs. J. S. Kieffer, D. M. Whitmore, and William M. Deatrick; and also of Dr. M. A. Berry, who resigned during the year.

Item 7, page 52. The Synod apportioned \$3875 among the several Classes constituting the Synod for Home Missions.

Item 8, page 52. The several Classes and pastoral charges were urged to take immediate steps to raise and pay the several amounts apportioned to them for the Washington Mission Chapel by the Synod of Hagerstown, in 1878.

Item 9, page 53. The Classes were requested to give special attention to the claims of Missions; to urge the importance of Systematic Benevolence, the further introduction of Missionary Societies in Congregations and Sunday-schools, etc.

Item 10, page 54. It becomes necessary to elect two members of the Synodic Board of Missions, in order to fill the vacancies in said Board, already existing, caused by the expiration of the term of service of Elder G. S. Griffith and Rev. A. H. Kremer, which occurred on the 1st instant.

Item 11, page 56. The Synod made certain specific assessments upon the several Classes for Contingent Purposes.

Item 12, page 57. It will be necessary to elect a member of Synod's Board of Trustees, to fill the place of Dr. L. H. Steiner, whose term of service will expire January 1st, A. D. 1882, according to the Charter.

Item 13, page 58. It becomes necessary to elect a member of the Sunday-school Board, to fill the place of Rev. A. R. Kremer, whose term of office ends at this meeting of the Synod; and also one to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Rev. D. W. Ebbert within the bounds of another Synod.

Item 14, page 59. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last annual sessions of the Synod published in pamphlet form, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive Minutes of our Synod.

Item 15, page 63. The Committee appointed by the Synod of Hanover, in 1874, to prepare and publish, jointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," *with music*, was continued, with special instructions to have the same published at the earliest practicable time: of which Committee Rev. Dr. Higbee is Chairman.

Item 16, page 65. The Synod requested the Classes within its bounds to order a collection for the benefit of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church, to be taken up in our churches on or about the third Sunday in June last.

Item 17, page 67. Zion's Classis is earnestly requested to take upon themselves their proper apportionment for the Washington Mission Chapel, as allotted at the Synod of Hagerstown in 1878.

Item 18, page 67. The Synod requested those who should be delegated from the several Classes of this Synod to the General Synod in Tiffin, to urge a return to the basis or ratio of ministers, in making the necessary assessments for Contingent Purposes, as the only proper and equitable one.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article IV., Rules of Order; on item 2, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; items 3, 7, 8, 9, 16 and 17 were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes; on item 4, see Article XIII., Education; items 5, 6, 10, 12 and 13 were referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations, to make the required nominations; on item 11, see Article XV., Finance; on items 14 and 15, see Article XX., Publication; and item 18 was adopted with the statement, that the request had not been complied with.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of the General Synod reported during the session of Monday afternoon. The report of the Committee was received, disposed of item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Minutes of General Synod begs leave to report the following items:

Item 1, page 21. The Overture of this Synod to the General Synod, requesting said Synod to return to the basis or ratio of ministers, in making assessments for contingent expenses, was not granted.

Item 2, page 50. The cause of Home Missions is commended to the District

Synods and their Boards, requesting them to take such action as shall increase the activity and efficiency of the Church in this important work.

Item 3, page 50. The General Synod repeats its request, that the Boards of the District Synods report to the Board of the General Synod, at least one month before its triennial meeting, a statement of their labors and their financial condition; and each Synod is also requested to send a copy of its Minutes annually to the General Synod's Board.

Item 4, page 101. The General Synod earnestly requests the District Synods to take such action as may be deemed best to establish Orphan Homes, where necessary, etc.

Item 5, page 111. The General Synod declared the proposed amendments to the Constitution, as sent down to the Classes for approval or rejection, as having been all adopted.

Item 6, page 112. The General Synod requests the District Synods to examine and give an expression of their opinion on the following points of the proposed revision of the Constitution, namely: *a) Annual Sessions of the General Synod.* *b) Election of delegates by the Synods instead of the Classes.* *c) Concentration of Church-work on Boards appointed by the General Synod.*

Item 7, page 159. The General Synod recommends an additional column to the present statistical table, in which the estimated value of Church property shall be given.

Item 8, page 167. The General Synod assessed this Synod in the sum of \$440.00 for contingent purposes.

Item 9, page 168. The attention of the District Synods, delinquent to George Gelbach, former Treasurer of the Church Extension Board, is called to said delinquency.

Item 10, page 170. The General Synod will meet in the Third Reformed Church of Baltimore, Md., on Wednesday Evening, May 7th, A. D. 1884, at 8 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. MILLER, Chairman.

Items 1, 2, 4, 5 and 10 were severally adopted; item 3 was adopted, and the attention of the Board of Missions was directed to the matter; item 6 was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Revs. W. M. Deatrick, Dr. Santee, A. J. Heller, H. St. J. Rinker, Dr. Welker, and Elders G. S. Griffith, C. A. Shultz, and J. R. Pague; item 7 was adopted, and the attention of the Classes called to the matter; item 8 was adopted, and the Committee on Finance was ordered to make the necessary assessment to meet the same; and item 9 was adopted, with the statement that the Synod of the Potomac is not delinquent in the matter, having paid its full apportionment, \$232.00, November 5th, 1874, as per voucher.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented their report, which was received, acted on item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to offer the following report, from letters and papers placed in its hands:

No. 1. An overture from the Iowa Classis, earnestly petitioning this Synod to aid them in their work of missions. The amount asked for is \$500.00.

No. 2. A complaint from the pastor of the York Springs Charge against certain action of Zion's Classis, at its meeting in Bloomfield, Perry county, Pa.

No. 3. A letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Pittsburgh Synod, stating that said Synod had selected the Rev. Dr. Theo. Appel as its choice for Superintendent of Missions for the ensuing term.

No. 4. A letter from the Secretary of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, giving the request of said Board, that all collections taken up for Home Missions, during our present sessions, be sent to the Treasurer of that Board.

No. 5. A statement of the Bethany Orphans' Home, from the President of the Board of Managers and the Superintendent of the Home, presenting the condition and wants of said institution.

No. 6. A request from the Northern Illinois Classis, asking permission to send a financial agent into the bounds of this Synod, with the view of collecting funds for the founding of a College by said Classis.

No. 7. Three petitions from congregations of the York Springs Charge, joining their pastor in his complaint against the action of Zion's Classis, already referred to in this report, under item 2.

No. 8. A communication from Rev. Dr. Wanner, asking the Synod to give a deliverance on the nature of a *complaint*, whether or not it stays the action of the Classis.

No. 9. A letter from Rev. J. Gantenbein, of Portland, Oregon, asking the Synod to excuse his absence, and requesting that the licentiates Albert Kreuter and Frederick Ewald, sent out as missionaries from Basel, Switzerland, to be enrolled as members of the Portland-Oregon Classis.

No. 10. A request from Rev. Henry Miller, asking the Synod to give a deliverance on the propriety of raising funds for missionary and church purposes by means of festivals, excursions, picnics, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

J. HASSLER, *Chairman.*

Item 1 was referred to the Standing Committee on Missions, after the letter had been read. For the action of Synod on items 2 and 7, see Article XVII., Complaints; items 3, 4 and 9 were adopted, the requests being granted; on items 5 and 10, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; item 6 was referred to the Standing Committee on Education for consideration; and the request of Rev. Dr. Wanner, contained in item 8, was answered in the *negative*, *i. e.*, that a complaint does not stay the action of the Classis.

ARTICLE X. MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes presented their report during the session of Monday afternoon, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

DEAR BRETHREN: Your Committee on Minutes of Classes, after a careful examination of the same, find the following items claiming the attention of the Synod:

I. IRREGULARITIES

1. The Classes of Zion, North Carolina, San Francisco, and Portland-Oregon, failed to incorporate the reports of their respective treasurers in their Minutes, as furnished to the Synod.

2. The Classis of North Carolina fails to give the hour at which it convenes next year.

3. The same Classis failed to elect a delegate secundus to the late General Synod.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. Zion's Classis requests the formation of three Classes out of their present territory.

5. Virginia Classis requests that the Synod allow her to use the balance of a missionary apportionment of \$150.00 within her own bounds.

6. San Francisco Classis requests the Synod to give its attention to the large cities along the Pacific coast, as affording an inviting field for Missionary effort.

7. Portland-Oregon Classis requests the Synod to establish a German Professorship in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

8. The same Classis requests the Synod to exonerate her from the apportionment of \$25.00 for Home Missions.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

9. The Rev. A. Wanner complains to the Synod of the action of Zion's Classis in the division of his pastoral charge.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO THE CLASSES.

10. All the Classes took favorable action upon the subjects referred to them.

11. The Virginia Classis returns a vote of thanks to the Synod for its favorable action in reference to the missionary work within the bounds of the Classis.

12. Portland-Oregon Classis expresses, in tender terms, its sincere gratitude to the Synod for its very warm expression of sympathy in its behalf.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

13. Zion's Classis licensed Calvin S. Slagle and dismissed him to the Mercersburg Classis; received the licentiate Alfred F. Dreisbach from the East Pennsylvania Classis, and ordained him to the Holy Ministry; received the Rev. Henry T. Spangler from the Eastern Ohio Classis, the Rev. Walter E. Krebs from the East Susquehanna Classis, and the Rev. David N. Dittmar from the Mercersburg Classis; and dismissed the Rev. William F. Colliflower to the Maryland Classis.

14. Maryland Classis received the Revs. William A. Gring and Jacob B. Kerschner from the Mercersburg Classis, the Rev. William F. Colliflower from the Zion's Classis of this Synod, and the Rev. Henry W. Hoffmeier from the Clarion Classis; and dismissed the Rev. Abner R. Kremer to the Virginia Classis.

15. Mercersburg Classis licensed Edgar S. Hassler, George B. Resser, and Albert A. Black; received the licentiates Cyrus J. Musser from the Somerset Classis, and Calvin S. Slagle from Zion's Classis of this Synod, and ordained them to the work of the Holy Ministry; received George B. Russell, D. D. from the Maryland Classis, and the Rev. Cyrus Cort from the Iowa Classis; and dismissed the licentiate Samuel H. Eisenberg to the Westmoreland Classis, the Rev. David N. Dittmar to Zion's Classis of this Synod, the Rev. Henry I. Comfort to the Miami Classis, the Rev. David W. Ebbert to the Philadelphia Classis, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., and the licentiate George F. Mull to the Lebanon Classis, the Revs. Wm. A. Gring and Jacob B. Kerschner to the Maryland Classis, and the licentiate George B. Resser to the Lancaster Classis of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.

16. Virginia Classis received the Rev. Abner R. Kremer from the Maryland Classis.

17. North Carolina Classis licensed Paul Barringer, and ordained him to the Holy Ministry; received the Rev. G. Dickey Gurley from the Westmoreland Classis; and dismissed the Rev. Julius H. Shuford to the Shelby Classis.

18. San Francisco Classis received the Rev. Charles Hartman from the Indiana Classis.

19. Portland-Oregon Classis received the licentiates Albert Kreuter and Frederick Ewald from the Reformed Church of Switzerland.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

20. Zion's Classis will meet in Trinity Reformed Church, York, York county, Pa., on Tuesday, May 30th, A. D. 1882, at 10 o'clock A. M. Rev. H. Hilbush, *President*; Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder C. A. Shultz, *Treasurer*.

21. Maryland Classis will meet in Middletown, Frederick county, Md., on Wednesday, May 31st, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, *President*; and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

22. Mercersburg Classis will meet in Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pa., on Wednesday, May 10th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. W. C. Cremer, *President*; and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

23. Virginia Classis will meet in Middlebrook, Augusta county, Va., on Wednesday, May 17th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. A. J. Bowers, *President*; Rev. B. R. Carnahan, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, *Treasurer*.

24. North Carolina Classis will meet in Mt. Zion Church, Rowan county, N. C., on Thursday, May 11th, A. D. 1882, at — o'clock. Rev. M. L. Hedrick, *President*; G. W. Welker, D.D., *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. T. Long, *Treasurer*.

25. San Francisco Classis will meet in St. John's Church, San Francisco, Cal., on Friday, June 2d, A. D. 1882, at 8 o'clock P. M. Rev. J. Fuendeling, *President*; Rev. C. F. Waldecker, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder P. Weiland, *Treasurer*.

26. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet in St. Peter's Reformed Church at Beaver Creek, Oregon City, Clackamas county, Oregon, on Thursday, June 8th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. J. Muellhaupt, *President*; Rev. J. Lange, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder F. Koellermeier, *Treasurer*.

Respectfully submitted,

H. ST. J. RINKER, *Chairman*.

Items 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10 to 26 inclusive, were severally adopted. For the action of the Synod on item 4, see Article XIX., Church Government; on items 7 and 8, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on item 9, see Article XVII., Complaints.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE AND ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination reported as follows, which was adopted, to wit:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination report that there has been nothing for the Committee to do.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. GLESSNER, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports presented the following report, during the session of Monday evening, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION—SYNOD OF POTOMAC.

Reverend Fathers and Brethren: Through the mercy of God, we have been permitted to meet once more as a Synod, to hear and tell what God has done for us and wrought by us, and in our midst, and to devise means and measures, looking to the building up, increase and prosperity of our Reformed Zion. Through dangers seen and unseen, through difficulties and trials, often sore and severe, and amidst the shafts of death which are flying all around us, striking down one here and another there, God has safely led us on and brought us here. And here we are to-day, ministers and elders, the monuments of God's watchful, preserving, and loving care. Well may each one of us exclaim : " What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me ?" and, " Bless the Lord, O my soul : and all that is within me, bless His holy name."

We are called on, and it is meet and right for us so to do, to thank God that we are permitted to meet as brethren, to dwell together, deliberate, and consult with each other in unity and peace. Thank God, that the peace movement, which was inaugurated over three years ago, has been happily consummated, and that peace and harmony now reign throughout the length and breadth of the Church. Instead of wasting their energies in fruitless controversies, unhallowed bickerings and strife, the brethren can now, and do now, as the Classical reports, in the opinion of your committee, clearly show, employ themselves more in working for God, for the salvation of souls, and for the prosperity and good of the Church.

Now, as a consequence, in part, of the reign of peace and harmony throughout the Church, the reports of the different Classes come to us fraught with glad tidings—with good news. They tell us, that God has prospered us, and blessed the labors of His ministering servants, during the past year, to an extent, and in a degree, not known in any previous year of the history of this Synod. They tell us, that in every department of Church work, and in every interest pertaining to such work, considerable progress has been made ; that ministers and people have not been asleep, nor standing idle in the vineyard of the Lord ; that our people are becoming more and more alive to their duty, and, to an encouraging degree, have been doing what their hands found to do ; that ministers have been alive to the responsibilities resting on them, as God's ambassadors, and faithful to their ordination vows ; that they have been active, earnest and zealous, in discharging the duties of their calling, in preaching the Gospel, in visiting the sick and dying, and administering to them the consolations of religion, in catechising the young and receiving members into the Church, and in administering the sacraments. And their labors, it appears, were not in vain, but resulted in producing much fruit to the glory of God, in the numbers brought to a knowledge of the truth, made savingly acquainted with Christ, and in the edification and growth in grace of believers.

The reports, that have come down to us from the different Classes, inform us, that an unusual number of new churches have been built during the last year, and many old ones repaired and beautified. This, too, certainly has its significance. Say not, that all this is in the interest of pride and vain show.

It evidences, that there is a right spirit at work amongst our people. Where there is no love for God's house, no interest taken in its proper comeliness, decency and beauty; where there is no desire that God may have a house worthy His glorious character and name, *there* is very little true piety—little of the spirit of true devotion. If we love God, we will certainly love the house in which He is worshipped, and where He meets and blesses His people. Where there is no true reverence for God, there is no reverence for the house in which He has recorded His name, and in which He dwells. How can we feel right, and worship God aright, in spirit and in truth, in an unsightly, uncomely, and filthy house of worship? Where there is true zeal for God, there certainly is zeal for His sanctuary—a zeal that has regard for, and looks to, its beauty and comeliness.

The grace of liberality has abounded amongst our people during the past year, and abounded to a greater extent than in any previous year. The different objects of benevolence were remembered and tolerably well sustained and supported, (*tolerably well sustained and supported in comparison with the support they received in former years.*) Would to God, that this grace—the grace of liberality—may abound still more and more, and that our people may soon be brought to see and feel, that they are not their own, but belong to their faithful Saviour, Jesus Christ, and that all they have belongs to Him, and should be consecrated to His service and cause. The language of one Classical report is: "An advance has been made on the part of our people in liberality. The pastors present all came prepared to meet the assessments laid by Classis on their several charges, and some of them have gone considerably beyond what they were asked by Classis to do, in order to meet the pressing wants of the Church." Another Classical report says: "We notice, with special pleasure, the increased benevolence of the churches. The cause of Missions, Home and Foreign, has been more faithfully remembered than usual." The report coming from another Classis conveys the pleasing intelligence, that within the bounds of that Classis, "the amounts raised for the different benevolent objects and interests of the Church have been much increased over that of former years." It says further: "It is with joy we hail the increasing spirit of liberality, for it is evidently indicative of growth in spiritual life, light and love." The acts and proceedings of another Classis, at its last annual meeting, reveal the fact, that, within the bounds of that Classis, "the duty of giving is better understood."

Our brethren on the Pacific coast are not idle, but doing all they can to push forward the work committed to their hands. In spite of the limited means at their disposal,—in spite of the difficulties with which they have to contend, and of many discouragements, they are doing a good work. The truth is, taking all things into consideration, they are doing remarkably well. They deserve the gratitude of the Church for their self-denying efforts and labors to extend the boundaries of, and build up, the Reformed Church in those remote regions of our land.

From the different Classical reports we gather the gratifying intelligence, that our people are becoming more and more interested in Foreign missionary work, and more and more disposed in the way of sympathy, and by their money and prayers, to further the good cause of Foreign Missions, and sustain our missionary now in the foreign field. This is as it should be. We need not look for much success in our efforts to build up our Church at home, if we shut up our bowels of compassion from the benighted heathen, and close our ears against the Macedonian cry, coming up to us from the dark corners of the earth: "Come over and help us."

Your Committee is glad to report increased interest on the part of ministers and people in the Sunday-school cause. Conventions have been held, and various other means and methods employed for the purpose of waking up our people to a lively sense of the importance of Sunday-schools, and stirring them

up to increased activity in Sunday-school work. The language of one of the Classical reports, in reference to this subject, is as follows: "We notice with great pleasure, that the Sunday-school work of the Classis is receiving special care and attention on the part of the ministry and people. Conventions have been held in each district, and new energy awakened by their influence." So say pretty much all the reports.

One of our ministerial brethren has gone to his reward since we last met. The Rev. John H. Sykes was called suddenly and unexpectedly away after his return home from the last meeting of Synod. In the midst of his usefulness and labors he was summoned to his reward. In the language of Wesley,

"His labors with his life laid down,
He ceased at once to work and live."

And here it is well also to make mention of the death of the Rev. Dr. Fisher. Though not a member of this Synod, still it is proper, on account of a long life spent in the service of the Church, and his many and valuable services rendered to the Church, to make honorable mention of his name here. He died away from his home, in Tiffin, Ohio, shortly after the adjournment of the General Synod. It becomes us all to lay to heart the admonition of the Saviour: "Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

But, alas! we have not all sweet to offer you. We have not all good news. With the sweet there is also a little that is bitter. With the good evil is always mixed. Sorrow is often mingled with our joys, and pain with pleasure. So it always has been in this world, and so we may expect it to be as long as the world stands. There is no pleasure here without being received, to a certain extent, with pain, and no sweet without its bitter. The reports coming down to us from the different Classes, whilst they contain much that is encouraging and comforting, much to cheer our hearts, much to awaken hope for the future, and much to stimulate us to renewed exertion in time to come, they contain much also that is calculated to sadden the heart. The Church is, and will be, as long as she is in this world, militant. In her, darkness will be mingled with light, error with truth, evil with good, righteousness and holiness with sin, as long as she is in her militant state. And it is certain, judging from the classical reports, that our branch of the Church, as well as other branches of the Church Catholic, has not yet reached her proper status, and attained her proper position in the sight of God, and in the scale of Christian perfection. She is still lacking in many respects—still far from being what she ought to be. She has still enough to lament over. She has still to mourn over the imperfections, short-comings and sins of her members; of indifference on the part of many towards her ordinances, means of grace, and things spiritual, divine and heavenly; to mourn because so many within our fold dishonor their profession, and do not walk worthy of the calling wherewith they were called; to lament and mourn because many within her pale love the world more than they love God, and because greed for the world prevents them from discharging their duty to God and the Church, in the way of liberally supporting and sustaining every good cause.

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church, by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. H. MARTIN, *Chairman.*

[For Statistical Tables see Appendix.]

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented its annual report to the Synod during Thursday forenoon's session, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report, is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomae:

The Board of Education begs leave to present to the Synod the following report of its operations, during the past synodical year:

At its meeting in Woodstock, held near the close of the last annual sessions of the Synod, the Board was organized by the re election of the officers of the previous year, and by the re-appointment of the same Executive Committee.

The Board had under its care, and supervision, during the last synodical year, seven beneficiary students. Four of these pursued their studies in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa. Two of them completed the full three years' course in the Seminary last May, and were regularly graduated from that institution. On the day following their graduation, they were duly licensed to preach the gospel by the Mercersburg Classis, at an adjourned meeting held in Chambersburg, Pa.

One of the theological students, by permission of the Board, and also of the Classis aiding him, was allowed to intermit his studies in the Middle Class of the Seminary last January, with the view of spending a year or two in teaching, and then resuming and concluding his theological studies.

At the present time, the Board has only four beneficiaries to furnish with funds. One of these is a member of the Senior and another a member of the Junior Class in the Seminary. And one is in the Senior Class and the remaining one in the Junior Class of Franklin and Marshall College. Thus it will be seen, that in less than a year hence the Board will have under its care only three beneficiary students, unless, in the mean time, others are received under its supervision and care.

By a careful examination of the Minutes of the General Synod and the several District Synods, the painful fact becomes apparent, that there is, at the present time, a gradual diminution going on in the number of young men preparing themselves for the gospel ministry in our Church. Whilst the borders of our Zion are being extended, and the demand for thoroughly equipped workmen is increasing, the number of those in a regular course of training for the needed work is gradually growing less from year to year. Pastoral charges also are being divided and new ones formed. Efficient pastors likewise are being removed by the hand of death. At the present time, the number of candidates for the ministry in our branch of the Church catholic is not adequate to supply these demands, let alone meet a true missionary spirit, such as should by all means characterize us. If this state of affairs is suffered to continue, it will not be long until the Reformed Church can disband her Boards of Education and close her Theological Seminaries. Is it right and proper, beloved brethren of the Synod, for us to close our eyes against such solemn facts as these, which so painfully confront us, and not endeavor, as Christian men, to meet them?

A living personal ministry is absolutely essential to the existence of the Church among men. Now, as in the Apostolic age, the Church rests, not on abstract confession or given system of theology, but on a living personal ministry—on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone. An ordained ministry, acting under an apostolic

commission, and presenting to men, continually from age to age, the mysteries of grace through their office, divinely originated, and of truly supernatural character and force, must be maintained by any Church which claims to act in the name of Christ for the salvation of men. Nothing, therefore, can be of more profound and solemn concern to the Reformed Church, than the fact which so painfully challenges it, in an actual and marked decrease in the number of those preparing for the work of the holy ministry.

In order to secure candidates for the sacred office, there must be a prevailing consecration to the Church among our people, such as will serve to challenge our young men as a voice from Christ Himself, to set themselves apart for the Lord, to prepare for the work of the Christian ministry. And just here the question confronts us, How can this necessary spirit of consecration to the Church of Christ be more universally enkindled among our people, that our young men may, at all times, be called out and stimulated to dedicate themselves to the ministry, as called thereto by the very community where they are? Of course, much is dependent here upon the earnest activity of our pastors. As were St. Paul and his co-laborers, so must they be anxious to devote the first fruits of their labors, of their catechisation and pastoral supervision and visitation, especially to the office of the ministry. They must keep steadily before their faith that the richest bloom of their whole work is that of having pointed and carried forward their spiritual sons to the rank of co-laborers with themselves in the vineyard of the Lord.

And, if at all earnest in our work of securing students to study and prepare themselves for ordination, we cannot, of course, fail, at the same time, to be equally interested in the matter of securing the necessary funds to assure the full education of the same for their solemn and responsible work. The two are, in our mind, inseparable. Most signally, too, in the case of the ministry, has the declaration of the Saviour shown profound truthfulness, that "the poor always ye have with you." It is emphatically from the ranks of the poor, in a great majority of cases, that the candidates for the ministry in the Reformed Church come. The office itself, which involves the idea of great self-denial, seems to necessitate this. "Not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called."

The whole subject is respectfully referred to the most earnest and prayerful consideration of the Synod, now in session.

The Board thankfully acknowledges the receipt, a few months since, of \$300.00, being a part of the bequest of Samuel Bussard, formerly an elder in the Friend's Cove Church of Bedford county, Pa., who died several years ago.

The Treasurer of the Board gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following contributions for Beneficiary Education, during the last fiscal year. The aggregate sum contributed by each pastoral charge is given, omitting the items and dates of payment:

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Maryland Classis.

Sunday-school of Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, Anniversary Offering	\$95 67
Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick	92 16
First Church of Baltimore	45 00
Hagerstown Charge	42 40
Middletown Charge	40 00
Cavetown Charge	30 00
Third Church of Baltimore	30 00
Manchester Charge	25 00
Mechanicstown Charge	18 00
St. Paul's Church of Baltimore	17 50

Mount Moriah Charge	15 00
Jefferson Charge	15 00
Westminster Charge	9 08
Mount Pleasant Charge	5 00
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Amount	\$479 81

Mercersburg Classis.

Chambersburg Charge	\$50 00
Waterstreet "	50 00
Bedford "	45 00
Yellow Creek "	25 00
Greenfield "	24 65
Orbisonia "	24 00
Woodcock Valley "	23 00
St. Thomas "	20 00
Mont Alto "	20 00
Martinsburg "	15 00
Greencastle "	15 00
Altoona "	15 00
Waynesboro "	13 50
Huntingdon "	13 35
Everett "	10 54
Loudon "	10 07
St. Clairsville "	10 00
Friend's Cove "	10 00
Sulphur Spring "	10 00
Clover Creek "	5 00
Hickory Bottom "	6 00
St. John's Church of Chambersburg	5 00
Shippensburg Charge	5 00
McConnellsburg "	3 00
Schellsburg "	1 74
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Amount	\$429 85

Virginia Classis.

Interest on Absalom Rinker legacy, per Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, Treas. . .	\$160 00
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Bequests.

Bequest, in part, of Samuel Bussard, late of Friend's Cove, Pa. . . .	\$300 00
Int. on Jacob Stoudenour legacy for one year, per Treas. of Synod . .	12 00

RECAPITULATION.*Summary of Receipts.*

October 11, 1880. Balance in Treasury	\$276 10
Received from Maryland Classis	479 81
" " Mercersburg	429 85
Part of bequest of Samuel Bussard	300 00
Interest on Absalom Rinker's legacy	160 00
Interest on Jacob Stoudenour's legacy	12 00
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Total Receipts	\$1,657 76

Summary of Payments.

Paid beneficiary students of Mercersburg Classis	\$356	25
" " Maryland Classis	337	50
" " Virginia Classis	175	00
Postage, revenue stamps, etc.	2	21
October 17, 1881. Balance in Treasury	786	80

Total payments \$1,657 76

Respectfully submitted by

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We hereby do certify, that we have carefully audited the account of Rev. William M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing Synopsis and Recapitulation are a true and faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury, at this date, of \$786.80.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 17, 1881.

I. G. BROWN, } Committee.
J. HASSELER, }

II. REPORT OF BOARD OF VISITORS OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The following is the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary, as furnished by the Secretary of the Board, to wit:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Dear Brethren: The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary presents to your honorable body through the undersigned, the following as their Annual Report:

At the opening of the Seminary in September one year ago, the following persons were admitted as members of the Junior Class, fourteen in number: Solomon A. Alt, Benjamin F. Bausman, William F. Faber, Geo. W. Gerhard, Daniel N. Harnish, John N. Hoobaugh, Alfred P. Horn, Charles W. Levan, Henry H. Saugus, David B. Schneder, Frank W. Smith, Adam S. Weber, Jairus A. Wickert and George A. Zeller. The Rev. S. Olin Garrison, an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having previously pursued his studies in the Drew Seminary of his own Church, wishing to avail himself of the opportunity afforded him as missionary in the city of Lancaster, to complete his theological studies, was admitted to the privileges of the Seminary, and he finished his studies with the Senior Class.

As a matter of regret we state that several of the students were under the necessity of absenting themselves from the Seminary during the whole or a part of the year on account of ill health, or because they found it necessary to engage in teaching in order to increase their funds for their support in the future. The conduct and diligence of the students in the discharge of their duties have, as a general thing, been good and commendable. They seek to make themselves useful in the Sunday School, and during the year, a new interest has been awakened among them in the cause of missions and fostered in their weekly meetings. The examinations at the close of the year were listened to with much interest by the Board, and were approved as satisfactory.

The members of the Senior Class, having completed the prescribed course of studies, and sustained their final examination creditably in the presence of the Board, received the regular certificate of dismission prepared for this purpose, setting forth these facts, at the Anniversary of the Seminary in May last. They are eleven in number, and their names are as follows: Albert A. Black, T. A.

Fenstermacher, S. Olin Garrison, Edwin A. Gernant, Edgar S. Hassler, Cosmos H. Herbst, Newton J. Miller, Cyrus J. Musser, George B. Resser, Calvin S. Slagle and Joshua Wolbach. Most of them have entered upon the active duties of the ministry, and are occupying fields of usefulness in the Church.

The Board is satisfied with the work done by the Seminary during the past year, and believe that there is cause for gratitude and thanksgiving to the Head of the Church for the measure of prosperity, with which He has hitherto favored our School of the Prophets. The whole number of students reported in the annual catalogue, present and absent, was 31.

Hitherto the Board of Visitors has been acting in the capacity of a Board of Education, but in accordance with the action of the Synod of the U. S., last year, the members of the Board of Visitors belonging to that Synod, have organized themselves into a Board of Education, which will hereafter transact its business apart from the sessions of the Board. The report of the Treasurer is annexed to this report.

The Secretary is further instructed to direct the attention of said Synod to the following action of the Board of Visitors at its last Annual Meeting.

Resolved, That the President of the Board be instructed to draw an order on the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary in favor of Dr. Theodore Appel for \$40 for salary as Secretary of the Board for two years, ordered to be paid by the Synod at its last Annual Meeting at Meyers-town, Pa., and also \$20 as salary for the present year, and likewise an order on said Treasurer in favor of the President for expenses incurred in the transmission of sermons of the graduating class through the mail and per express —amounting to \$2.31—as ordered by the Synod at the above meeting.

Resolved, That in case the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary refuses to honor the above orders, the Secretary of the Board be instructed to incorporate the fact in the annual report of this Board to Synod by way of complaint.

In accordance with the last of these resolutions, I hereby inform the Synod, that the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary has refused to honor the orders above referred to when presented to him. I further state that he has refused to pay an order drawn on him by the President of the Board for \$10.00, the amount needed to pay for the new diploma or "certificate of dismissal" prepared by the Secretary as ordered by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Sec'y of the Board.*

III. REPORTS OF THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND TREASURER.

The following Reports were received from the Board of Trustees and of the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary, to wit:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Brethren: The Board of Trustees of Theological Seminary respectfully present their Annual Report :

The usual meetings have been held during the year, and the routine business of the Board has been transacted.

We received a copy of the action of the Synod of the U. S., directing our Treasurer "to pay all orders drawn on him by the President of the Board of Visitors, for all incidental and legitimate expenses incurred by the Board in the transaction of its business."

We have not complied with this action of said Synod for the very sufficient reason that we are about three hundred dollars short of necessary funds to pay the legitimate expenses of the Seminary proper, and we do not understand the action of Synod to mean that these drafts upon our Treasurer shall take precedence of regular standing obligations, such as Professors' salaries, coal,

light, etc., incurred in running the Institution. We doubt, also, the authority of the Synod of the United States, to pass such action without the concurrence of the other two Synods represented in both the Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors of the Seminary.

Since our last report, some of our investments have been paid, and we have been compelled to reinvest at 5 per cent. interest, and at this time we are notified by holders of \$13,000 of our funds, that unless we allow them to keep their loans at 5 per cent., they will pay them. Our experience is only the same as others. The Treasurer of the Synod of the U. S. has had to invest at the same rate of interest, and so also the Finance Committee of Franklin and Marshall College.

About \$4,000 of our endowment fund bears no interest and is practically worthless, consisting of Classical notes, etc., which by tacit consent the Synod of the U. S. has never authorized us to push to collection, if indeed they are collectable.

Another source of unavoidable expense is the keeping up the Professors' houses. The heating apparatus and other absolutely necessary repairs this year will amount to over \$200 in excess of our regular expenses for repairs. In view of these facts, we think that instead of adding to the drafts upon our Treasurer, it may be necessary, in the near future, for Synod to furnish us aid, that we may be able to meet the legitimate and unavoidable expenses incurred in running the Institution. Two years ago, the Synod of the U. S. passed an action requesting the congregations to pay to our Treasurer the proceeds of one collection during the year. The total receipts from this source were \$24.09. From this it appears that nearly every Pastor present at that meeting of Synod and voting for this action went home to his charge and ignored the request of Synod.

We call the attention of Synod to the fact that the Seminary property at Mercersburg, Pa., leased by this Synod to the Regents of Mercersburg College, has been advertised for sale by the Sheriff of Franklin county during the current year. The Regents of Mercersburg College have mortgaged the lease, and on this mortgage judgment has been obtained, and the Sheriff advertised it for sale. We consider the property in danger so long as this mortgage is suffered to remain. It is for the Synods to determine if any action is needed to protect their interests in this property. If it should be sold under this mortgage, it may pass out of the control of our Church.

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. GROSS, *President.*

JNO. B. ROTH, *Treasurer.*

EDW. J. ZAHM, *Rec. Secretary.*

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 6th, 1881.

The following is the statement of the Treasurer referred to in the above report:

II. TREASURER'S REPORT.

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treasurer of the Theological Seminary, in acct., Dr.*

Endowment Fund, Oct. 1, 1881.

Total of Fund	\$69,299 76
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Of this sum \$2,000 yields no interest.

DR.

For sundry interests received from Oct. 1, 1880, to Oct. 1, 1881 . .	\$4,946 99
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CR.

By sundry bills and salary paid per vouchers to

Seminary Board \$6 382 66

Amount Dr. brought down 4,946 99

Balance due Treasurer Oct. 1, 1881	\$1,435 67
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	Library Fund.	
Amount of Fund		<u>\$2,069 96</u>
Oct. 1, 1881. For sundry interest received to date and in hand . . .	\$245 42	
	CR.	
Oct. 1, 1881. By sundry bills paid to date	115 54	
Balance in hands of Treasurer	129 88	
	Smaltz Fund.	
Amount of Fund	<u>\$5,000 00</u>	
	DR.	
Oct. 1, 1881. For balance in hand Oct. 1, 1880, and sundry interest received to date	\$333 39	
	CR.	
Oct. 1, 1881. By sundry orders paid by Treasurer	333 39	
	Building Fund.	
Oct. 1, 1880. Amount reported to Board	12,396 05	
March 24, 1881. Note paid	<u>300 00</u>	
Total of Fund Oct. 1, 1881	\$12,696 05	
	Pittsburgh Prof. Fund.	
Oct. 1, 1881. Amount of Fund	\$1,718 30	
	Respectfully submitted,	
		JOHN B. ROTH, <i>Treas.</i>

Lancaster, Oct. 1, 1881.

The undersigned Auditing Committee having examined the Treasurer's accounts and compared his vouchers, find them correct.

GEO. W. HENSEL,
EDW'D J. ZAHM.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom the foregoing Report of the Board of Education, and Reports of the Board of Visitors, Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and Treasurer, had been referred, reported during the session of Monday evening. Their report was considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Education have had placed in their hands reports from the Board of Education, the Board of Visitors, the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, with their Treasurer's account, and a letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Northern Illinois Classis.

In the Report of the Board of Education, the fact of a very limited number of students for the ministry, at this time under the care of the Board, is urged upon the attention of Synod. It is the principal consideration of the report; and which is the more earnest for the reason, that the small number of men from our own territory is but the showing of what obtains in the Church at large. The cause is doubtless a local and definite one; but it is the more alarming, as the Board indicates, in view of the fact that it is not simply local — a temporary reaction it may be of a former effort in this direction, or some other cause peculiar to ourselves, but that we are passing under a more for-

midable and subtle power of the evil affecting the general life of the Church. The Board has looked into the matter carefully, as gathered from the Minutes of the General Synod and the several District Synods, and says, that there is a gradual diminution in the number of young men preparing for the ministry.

On this account it becomes us to give special attention to this particular part of our work, and your committee proposes that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolved, That the Synod hereby solemnly counsels its Pastors and Elders to keep in mind this important part of their work of selecting and bringing up suitable young men for the ministry; and that, as a necessary part of this work, they continue to commend and urge upon our people the cause of Beneficiary Education.

The Report mentions also the receipt of \$300.00, as a part of the bequest of Samuel Bussard, of the Friend's Cove congregation, and your committee propose the following action with regard to it:

Resolved, That this act of testatory benevolence meets the cordial approval of the Synod, and is commended as a good example of Christian love.

The Board of Visitors of the Seminary report, that it is satisfied with the work done during the past year. Eleven students were graduated. The whole number catalogued for the past year is thirty one.

The Board of Trustees of the Seminary inform us, that they are about \$300.00 short of funds to meet the standing obligations—such as professors' salaries, coal, light, etc.,—and that there will be for the year ensuing an unavoidable expense of over \$200.00 *in excess*, for regular repairs at the professors' houses. They say, moreover, that some of their investments were paid them, and could be reinvested at no higher rate of interest than five per cent.; that they have been notified by holders of \$13.000.00, that unless they may hold their loans at five per cent. they will be paid. Your committee propose the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod has full confidence in the financial and moral ability with regard to the Seminary funds, and simply asks that the best be done that can be done.

Resolved, That this Synod assume one-third of last year's deficiency, that is \$100.00, and that this sum be referred to the Committee on Finance, for apportionment among the Classes.

From this same Report we learn, that the necessary expenditures of the Board of Visitors have not been paid. The Board of Trustees, for want of funds for one reason, refused to pay these expenses; and for another, they do not feel themselves authorized to pay them, excepting they be directed by the several Synods conjointly interested, and represented in the Boards of Trustees and Visitors. Your committee thinks that these expenses ought to be provided for and paid promptly, and offers for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Synod concurs with the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States in directing the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary to pay the order of the President of the Board of Visitors for necessary expenses, and that this Synod will meet its proper portion, when informed of the amount due.

From the same Report we are also informed that the Seminary property at Mercersburg is in danger, on account of a mortgage given by the Board of Regents on the Lease; on which mortgage judgment has been obtained. The Board thinks that it is the business of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, with the concurrence of the other two Synods, to determine whether any action is needed to protect the interests of this property. Your committee thought proper to note this fact, but thinks that no action in this connection is necessary, since the Synod has canvassed this whole subject already, and made provision against the troubles referred to. But your com-

mittee thinks also, that the Corresponding Secretary ought to be directed to inform the Board of Trustees of what has been done.

In answer to the request of the Northern Illinois Classis, by a letter from its Corresponding Secretary, to permit an agent to enter the territory of this Synod for funds for the founding of a College at Foreston, Ogle county, Ill., we offer the following:

Resolved, That the Synod appreciates the earnest mind of the brethren of the Northern Illinois Classis in their work of education, but at this time is unable to extend to them any financial help, for the reason mainly, that the institution of learning located in our own midst is at this time in need of relief and a very special effort for its upbuilding.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be and is hereby directed to communicate this action to the Corresponding Secretary of that Classis.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. A. GRING, *Chairman.*

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received, and is as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College begs leave to present to the Synod the following annual report:—

The Board was reorganized at Woodstock, Va., during the meeting of the last Synod, by the election of Rev. J. S. Kieffer, as Secretary, E. J. Bonbrake, Esq., of Chambersburg, Pa., as Treasurer, and the undersigned, as President. Several meetings of the Board were held during the past Synodical year. The past year was, in various respects, a most serious and trying one to your Board.

In the judgment of the Board it became absolutely necessary to suspend the educational work of the College immediately after the adjournment of the last annual meeting of the Synod, and thereby prevent the further increase of its indebtedness, inasmuch as the institution, as then in operation, was running into debt at the rate of at least three thousand dollars a year.

At a special meeting of the Board held in Chambersburg, Pa., October 25th, 1880, it was deemed proper, in accordance with the advice and action of the last Synod, to prepare and send out a very earnest appeal to the pastors of the Synod to make collections in their respective pastoral charges, for the immediate relief of the institution. Such appeal was regularly issued in the early part of last November, but—"Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askalon"—only two pastors made any response to the appeal. And so the whole amount realized by this project very little more than paid the expenses incurred in issuing the appeal. Under such circumstances the Board was at a loss to know what to do, or what course to pursue. Although specially empowered by the action of the last Synod, to employ and send an agent into the pastoral charges of the Synod to collect funds to help pay the liabilities of the College, it was not thought worth while by your Board to resort to that expedient, after witnessing the humiliating response made to the appeal that had been issued. Nor was any one to be found suitable and willing to go forth as agent on such a mission.

The only course left was to try to do the best we could in the case, and attempt to buffet the approaching storm, which was sure to come. Accord-

ingly such personal effects were sold to the creditors as could be disposed of, amounting to between five and six hundred dollars. Some transfer of notes and accounts, as well as some collections were made, so that perhaps as much as fifteen hundred dollars of the indebtedness has been met in this way and cancelled during the past Synodical year. Between fifty and one hundred dollars also have been expended in making absolutely necessary repairs to the several buildings. The amount of indebtedness thus cancelled and money expended on repairs cannot be accurately given by your Board at present, as our Treasurer is now absent from home, on a western trip, and his books are not accessible. But we feel perfectly safe in saying to the Synod, that, after allowing for the accumulating of interest and meeting the expenditures of repairs made to the property, there has been an actual decrease of indebtedness to the full amount of at least eight hundred dollars, during the past year.

Last spring, the holder of what was then known as the King or Hager Mortgage had said mortgage foreclosed, and the entire property was advertised to be sold at sheriff's sale by the sheriff of this county, on the 22d of last April. Prominent members of the Synod were appealed to by the officers of the Board in reference to contributing funds, in the shape of shares of one hundred dollars, or multiples thereof, and thus meet the mortgage by payment and transfer thereof to those paying the money, and so save the property of the Church, first erected for educational purposes by our Reformed Zion, from being sold under the hammer of the sheriff. No favorable responses were made, we are sorry to say, except in a single instance, by one of our esteemed laymen, who is known for his liberality. The friends of the institution, in our own Church and outside thereof, in Mercersburg and Chambersburg, went to work, as a last resort, raised the money in shares of one hundred dollars, or multiples thereof, paid the then holder of the mortgage his claim, had it regularly transferred to themselves, and so saved the College from the impending calamity of the threatened sheriff's sale, on the very morning of the day appointed for the sale to take place. And thus by transfer the mortgage has passed into possession of certain citizens of Mercersburg and Chambersburg, and is held by them mainly.

Your Board is happy in being able to announce to the Synod that the College has recently been re-opened under the superintendence and management of Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D.D., as a male and female institution of learning, such as it was for some time after its organization in 1865. Dr. Aughinbaugh is assisted in his work by an efficient lady teacher, besides his wife, who has charge of the department of music. The number of pupils is eighteen or twenty, with fair prospects of further accessions to the roll of students. As now conducted, the College is carried forward without any financial expense to the Board of Regents, or to the Church. If the Synod will only manfully rally around the institution, and furnish a largely increased number of students, male and female, this will not only continue to be the case, but the school will soon begin to afford revenue to help pay off, from year to year, the unfortunate indebtedness of Mercersburg College.

In conclusion, the attention of the Synod is called to the fact that it will be necessary to fill by election the places of Revs. J. S. Kieffer, D M. Whitmore, and Wm. M. Deatrick, members of the Board, whose term of office expires with the present meeting of Synod, and also the vacancy in the Board occasioned by the resignation of Dr. M. A. Berry, last July, which was temporarily filled by the Board in the appointment of Rev. C. Cort.

Respectfully submitted by order of the Board.

Wm. M. DEATRICK, President.

The consideration of the report was made the order of the day for Saturday morning's session, at 10 o'clock. At the appointed hour, the Synod resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with

Rev. J. M. Titzel in the chair. The remainder of the session, and also a part of the afternoon session, were devoted in this way to the interests of the College. After rising, the Committee of the Whole, through its Chairman, reported to the Synod for adoption the following resolutions, which were accordingly adopted, to wit:

1. *Resolved*, That, if possible, the property at Mercersburg shall be saved to the Reformed Church, for educational purposes.
2. *Resolved*, That the Board of Regents be recommended to make the best possible terms with the creditors of Mercersburg College, and fund the debt at a rate of interest not exceeding five per cent.
3. *Resolved*, That the Synod guarantees the payment annually of three hundred dollars for the term of five years, to help meet the interest on the funded debt.
4. *Resolved*, That the Synod is gratified to learn, that Mercersburg College has been re-opened under the efficient and encouraging management of the Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D. D., and the Synod heartily commends the institution to the confidence and patronage of our people.

Col. George B. Wiestling tendered to the Synod his resignation as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, which was accepted, and the Committee on Nominations was instructed to make the necessary nominations to fill the vacancy.

At the election for members of the different Boards of Synod, held during the session of Monday evening, Revs. I. G. Brown, W. C. Cremer, and S. S. Miller were elected members of the Board of Education for the term of three years. At the same time, Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, Wm. Goodrich, and Wm. I. Stewart were chosen as members of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College for the term of three years, and Elder I. H. Keefer and Rev. J. Hassler for the term of two years.

The following individuals constitute the Board of Education, and the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, severally, at the present time, to wit:

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. I. G. Brown	3 years	October, 1884.
" W. C. Cremer	3 "	" 1884.
" S. S. Miller	3 "	" 1884.
" Wm. M. Deatrick	2 "	" 1883.
" J. S. Kieffer	2 "	" 1883.
" J. W. Santee	2 "	" 1883.
" W. Goodrich	1 year	" 1882.
" A. J. Heller	1 "	" 1882.
Elder J. Heyser	1 "	" 1882.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick	3 years	October, 1884.
" Wm. Goodrich	3 "	" 1884.
" Wm. I. Stewart	3 "	" 1884.
" A. J. Heller	2 "	" 1883.
Elder I. H. Keefer	2 "	" 1883.
Rev. J. Hassler	2 "	" 1883.
Elder A. R. Schnebly	1 year	" 1882.
" Louis Markell	1 "	" 1882.
E. J. Bonbrake, Esq.	1 "	" 1882.

ARTICLE XIV.
MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board, of the Superintendent, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were laid before the Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Missions. This Committee reported, during the session of Monday afternoon, and their report was ordered to be taken up item by item for adoption, was adopted as a whole, and will be found subjoined in its proper place. These several reports are as follows :

I. REPORT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Potomac :

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN: We herewith transmit to your reverend body the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

It is the duty of the several Synods represented in the Board, at their present annual meetings, to elect a person to fill the office of Superintendent, for the coming four years. Your Board, as it is made its duty to do, nominates candidates for said office, presenting the names of Revs. Dr. Theodore Appel and Henry Mosser.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, President.

W. H. H. SNYDER, Secretary.

II. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the United States, Pittsburgh and Potomac Synods :

RESPECTED BRETHREN:—The Superintendent of Missions hereby respectfully presents this his Fourth Annual Report of the condition and progress of the missions under the care of the Board during the past year.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Grace Reformed Church, Easton.—Under the care of the Board five years. Members, 80. S. S. scholars, 100. Baptisms, 10. Additions, 5. Benevolence, \$30. Local objects, over \$600. Cost of property, \$3,000. Indebtedness, about \$1,200. Reduction of debt during the year, \$300. Attendance, better than in former years. The condition of the mission steadily improving. In a great measure dependent for its increase on members removing from the country to the town. Appropriation fixed by the Classis—not reported to the Board. Pastor, D. Y. Heisler.

Salem's Reformed Church, Catasauqua.—About seven years under the care of the Board. Members, 140. S. S. scholars, 150. Baptisms, 19. Additions, 16. Losses, 5. Benevolence, \$43.53. Local objects, \$1,094.66. Cost of property, \$3,100. Its value much greater. Its present indebtedness is \$1,600. Reduction during the year, \$1,500. There is a decided improvement in the condition of this mission, as compared with that of previous years. Its indebtedness is still in its way, also the financial disrepute into which it had fallen during previous years. It is, however, overcoming both of these difficulties, and its financial status in the community has improved. Appropriation fixed by Classis. Pastor, J. J. Crist.

Christ's Mission, East Allentown.—This mission was served during part of the past year by Rev. J. Fritzinger. After his withdrawal, the Rev. W. J. Kershner became its pastor. The Classis of Lehigh declined extending to it any further assistance, and it is, therefore, no longer under the care of the Board. With the help which it expects to receive from members of the Reformed church in other congregations in the city, it is believed that it will hereafter be able to sustain itself.

St. John's, Reading.—Members, 390. Baptisms, 71. Additions, 65. S. S. scholars, 400. Cost of church property, \$22,000. Reduction of indebtedness during the past year, \$500. The financial condition of the mission is improving; and if it were not for its indebtedness, the mission would be self-supporting. The pastor has been serving the Birdsboro mission during the year, which at present is building a new church for its use. If this congregation can be connected with one or more neighboring congregations, it will constitute a self-supporting charge, and pastor Steinmetz will be relieved of a part of his arduous labors. He can then devote more time and attention to his congregation in Reading. Appropriation last year, \$300. This year, \$200. Pastor, J. W. Steinmetz.

St. John's, West Philadelphia.—For several years past this mission has been suffering from financial difficulties. Its income was not sufficient to meet its expenditures. The actual amount of indebtedness over a year ago was diminished, as said in last year's report, but this was accomplished by the sale of one of its houses, and was not, therefore, in itself, a financial gain. The indebtedness had been accumulating for several years before. The pastor, Rev. J. S. Vandersloot, having been invited to take charge of a mission in another part of the city, concluded to withdraw from his post, so that the way might be opened to place the mission upon a better financial basis. The mission, accordingly, has been vacant for several months, but it has been regularly supplied by the Superintendent and others. The way is now open for the location of another pastor over it; and so soon as that is brought about, the Board has good hopes that, under new auspices, it will take a new departure, and overcome the difficulties which have stood thus far in the way of its progress. Appropriation last year, \$300. Vacant.

Grace Church, Philadelphia.—This mission grew out of a mission Sunday-school, which had been kept up by the members of the Reformed church for a number of years previously, at the corner of 5th and Dauphin streets, in the northern part of the city. Last spring it made an application to the Board to be recognized as a mission, and to be supplied with a missionary pastor. It was signed by over fifty persons. A congregation of some twenty persons was organized by the Classis of Philadelphia, and the Rev. J. S. Vandersloot was commissioned by the Board to take charge of it as missionary. It is believed

that the number of members will be largely increased during the course of the year. The Sunday-school, numbering over one hundred scholars, had been carried forward with energy, during previous years, and it is now in a flourishing condition. A lot of ground has been selected for a new church or chapel, and it is proposed to build on it during the course of the year. The mission is promising. It is located in a part of the city where missionary labor is needed, and where is much material belonging to the Reformed church which, with the divine blessing, may be gathered into a flourishing church. Appropriation, \$500. Pastor, J. S. Vandersloot.

Second Church, Harrisburg.—Members, 109. Baptisms, 16. Additions, 16. S. S. scholars, 273. Benevolence, \$80. For local objects, \$689. No debt. The Missionary Society, composed mainly of S. S. scholars, contributed one-fourth of the amount devoted to benevolence. This congregation has been receiving missionary help since its organization, a little over seventeen years ago. During the period it has been under the charge of the present pastor—eight years—it has been making encouraging additions from year to year, in all, 147; but its losses, by removals or death, have been also large, so that its growth in numbers has been impeded by circumstances which were beyond its control. The Classis of Lancaster is at present making an effort to connect it with a congregation in the country, by which it is thought the charge will be nearly or quite self-sustaining. Appropriation last year, \$250. This year, the same. Pastor, G. W. Snyder.

Zwingli Church, Harrisburg.—This mission has been supplied for two years by the Rev. John G. Fritchey, during which time he has reduced the indebtedness from \$2,000 to \$1,100, and re-established its financial reputation. Confidence has been restored, and the members are united and willing to work together for the future prosperity of the church. Mr. Fritchey, in view of his advancing age, is anxious to withdraw from the mission, and the way seems now to be prepared to secure some one to succeed him. It is thought that before long the Board will be able to obtain a competent person to take charge of it. Members, 66. Baptisms, 6. Additions, 6, all heads of families. S. S. scholars, 40. Benevolence, \$3. Local objects, \$268. Value of property, estimated at \$10,000. Appropriation, \$100. Pastor, Rev. J. G. Fritchey.

Columbia.—Members, 165. Losses, 16 by removal; 10 by death. Additions, 19. Baptisms, 18. S. S. scholars, 185. Benevolence, \$93. For local objects, \$960. Value of church property, \$7,000; of parsonage, \$3,000. The congregation, under difficulties, is making progress. For a number of years past it has had a troublesome debt to contend with, amounting, during the year, to \$1,625. A few weeks ago, an effort was made to pay it off. Over \$1,200 was secured for this purpose, and in a few weeks more it is expected that the balance will be provided for. Appropriation last year, \$125. This year, the same. Pastor, C. S. Gerhart.

Wilkes-Barre.—The present missionary has had charge of this mission now nearly four years. Number of members at Wilkes-Barre, 312. At Nanticoke, 120. In all, 432. Gain, 112, and losses, 37, leaving a net increase of 75. S. S. scholars, 225. Baptisms, 64. Benevolence, \$54. Local objects, \$—. Cost of property, \$13,000. Indebtedness last year, \$3,650. This year, \$1,600. At Nanticoke the congregation is making an effort to erect a church, for which \$800 have thus far been secured. An eligible piece of ground was donated for this purpose by

the Susquehanna Coal Company. The mission at Plymouth, referred to in last year's report as growing out of the mission at Wilkes-Barre, has been doing well under the care of the Rev. S. C. Meckel, and now receives an appropriation from the Classis of East Susquehanna. It has 42 members, and expects to erect a new church for its use by the coming spring. Missionary work in the Wyoming Valley thus far has made an encouraging degree of progress, and promises well for the spread of the church in that section of the country. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, \$225. Pastor, F. K. Levan.

Lock Haven.—Members, 140. Two congregations. Additions, 11. Baptisms, 5. S. S. scholars, 90. Benevolence, \$30. Debt, \$729. Reduction during the year, \$81. Cost of church, \$2,200, but worth much more now. In need of repairs. The church building of the country congregation is of little value, and must soon be replaced by a new one. The attendance upon the means of grace is good, and the mission is growing both internally and externally. When the present pastor took charge of it in 1879, it was much distracted, and its prospects gloomy. Since then it has rallied, and its condition is again promising for the future. Support of the pastor inadequate. Appropriation last year, \$300. This year, the same. Pastor, I. S. Stahr.

East Liberty and Wilkinsburg.—The congregation at East Liberty has been making progress during the year. The membership was increased one-third since last January. The indebtedness, \$1,600, was reduced to \$750. Street assessment of nearly \$100 per year is a burden on the congregation, likely to continue for several years to come.—Wilkinsburg is also doing well, but it has a heavy debt to carry, and its effect on the congregation is depressing. Members in both congregations, 100 Baptisms, 5. Additions, 23. S. S. scholars, 130. For benevolence, \$29. For local objects, \$920. Value of property, about \$6,000. Appropriation last year, \$525. This year, the same. Pastor, J. W. Knappenberger.

Orbisonia, Huntingdon Co..—Three congregations. Under the Board five years. Members, 115. Baptisms, 18. Additions, 8. S. S. scholars, 90. Value of property, \$1,500. Benevolence, \$65. Local objects, \$730. Indebtedness, \$70. Reduction of debt during the year, \$130. The attendance on worship, good. Some growth during the year. The support inadequate, making it necessary for the pastor to teach during a part of his time. The pastor, Rev. J. M. Schick, after laboring successfully in this charge for five years, recently withdrew. Appropriation, \$112. Vacant.

Sulphur Spring, Bedford Co..—Congregations, 3. Members, 169 Baptisms, 24. Additions, 9. Sunday-schools, 2, union. Benevolence, \$62. Local objects, \$503. The mission was established in 1873. It has built a new church at Mann's Choice worth \$1,800, and a parsonage worth \$1,600. These two buildings were paid for gradually from year to year; the remaining indebtedness was paid off during the year. It has been making progress, internally and externally, and its prospects for the future are good. The pastor, W. A. Gring, was recently called to another charge, and he left with the kind wishes of his people. Appropriation last year, \$200.

Duncannon.—There are three congregations comprising this mission. The congregation at Marysville has improved its church building, and paid, in all, \$300 for local purposes, which amounted to \$10, on an average, for each member. The Missionary, Rev. U. H. Heilman, having

received a call from another charge in the church, there is a probability that he will accept of it and withdraw from the mission. The congregation at Duncannon is making a slow but encouraging progress. No statistics given. Appropriation last year, \$225.

First Church, Allegheny City.—This mission has been vacant during the past year. It was thought best by the Board of Missions of the Pittsburgh Synod that the arrangement made last year for its supply should be discontinued, and our missionary interests in Allegheny City were referred to a committee of Classis. Nothing, as far as we know, has been done to revive the mission during the year, and the prospects are that it will lie dormant for the time being. We need very much a church organization in Allegheny City, and it is believed that the time will still come when, under more favorable circumstances, we again will be able to occupy this field.

Shenandoah City.—No reports have been received from this mission during the year. It has hitherto stood under the supervision of the missionary department of the Ursinus Union. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, the same. Pastor, J. G. Neff.

St. John's Church, Johnstown.—Under the care of the Board two years. Members, 61. Baptisms, 15. Additions, 12. Losses, 2. For benevolence, \$43. For local objects, about \$1,500. The new church was dedicated in November last, and since then all the remaining indebtedness—several hundred dollars—has been cancelled. Its cost was \$3,000. This mission, during the short time it has been aided by the Board, has made a commendable degree of progress. Its beginnings were humble, and by no means encouraging to feeble sight. It has been largely, thus far, the work of faith, hope and charity. It received liberal aid from the citizens of Johnstown in the building of the church. Appropriation last year, \$500; this year, the same. Pastor, W. H. Bates.

St. Luke's, Lancaster.—Members, 51. Baptisms, 21. Additions, 18. S. S. scholars, 215. Whole number enrolled during the year, 260. For benevolence, \$21.90. For local objects, \$531.15. Value of property, \$2,800. No indebtedness on property. The Sunday-school has largely increased during the year, and is composed mostly of the children of the poor. Its weekly contributions—\$60—were nearly sufficient to pay its expenses. Contributions to pastor's salary, about \$50. The balance of the expenses were met by the contributions of friends of the mission and proceeds of concerts and festivals. The Harbaugh Missionary Society was started during the year, and holds regular monthly meetings, which are well attended. This mission is doing a good work among the poor in the suburbs of the city, and has been enjoying manifest tokens of the divine favor since its organization, about three years ago. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, the same. Pastor, W. F. Lichliter.

Overton, Bradford Co.—The prosperous condition of this mission, as presented in our last annual report, was interrupted by the withdrawal of its pastor, who accepted a call to another charge, with the approbation of Classis. Several efforts have been made to secure a successor, but thus far without success. The opportunities for building up churches in this field are favorable, and it is hoped that a suitable person will be secured before long, who will come and carry forward the good work on the foundation which has been laid. Appropriation last year, \$150. Vacant.

Latrobe.—Two congregations. Members, 123. Additions, at Latrobe, 25. Baptisms, 10. S. S. scholars, 65. Benevolence, \$50. For local

purposes, \$600. Cost of property, \$7,200. Indebtedness, \$1,850. Reduction of indebtedness, \$92.60. The mission seems to be looking up, and, if its progress is slow, it is steady. The present pastor took charge of it during the year. He commenced preaching in Ligonier valley, where he organized a congregation of 25 members, which he has continued to serve. Appropriation last year, \$200; this year, the same. Pastor, S. H. Eisenberg.

Trinity Mission, York Co.—This mission has disappointed the expectations of the Board and its friends. For a year or more it has made little or no progress. It has, in fact, declined, and the Board has withdrawn its commission from the missionary. It will, therefore, devolve on the Classis to devise measures by which its wants shall be provided for.

Sharon, Mercer Co.—No reports. Statistics as reported in the minutes of General Synod. Members, 185; baptisms, 11; additions, 12; S. S. scholars, 69; benevolent objects, \$15; local objects, \$1800. The mission is still vacant, but supplied by Rev. F. P. Hartmetz. Appropriation \$100.

New Castle, Lawrence Co.—Organized as a mission in January, 1880. Members, 44. Baptisms, 9. Unconfirmed members, 27. Additions, 9. Worships in a rented hall. An effort is now in progress to build a house of worship, which is much needed. The amount raised in subscriptions and cash up to this time is a fraction over \$2,000. It is proposed to go forward in the erection of the new church yet this fall. It is to cost about \$2,500, exclusive of the lot. Much of the time of the missionary has been occupied in securing subscriptions for the church in the town, and in congregations at a distance; but its spiritual interests have not materially suffered. It is not likely that it will make considerable progress until it is furnished with necessary church accommodations. Its prospects are encouraging. Appropriation last year, \$450; this year, the same. Pastor, J. M. Souder.

Marietta.—The congregation at Marietta, organized several years ago, was for some time a mission under the care of the Classis of Lancaster, and was assisted by a number of its congregations. But the help thus obtained was not sufficient to support its pastor, and it appealed to the Board for a small appropriation, which was granted. The Classis connected it with the Maytown congregation, and so strengthened the charge. The mission is growing, and with some help in time of need, it has good prospects of becoming self-supporting at no distant day. The missionary, Rev. S. P. Brown, withdrew from the field last winter, and he was succeeded by the Rev. G. B. Resser in the spring. Appropriation, \$100.

Tionesta and Dubois.—Both of these points have been recognized as missions, and appropriations made for their support, but thus far they have been without missionary pastors.

VIRGINIA.

Winchester.—Although this mission was without a pastor for a time, it did not suffer any serious loss. Its members held together, and waited in faith and prayer for some one who should break unto them the bread of life. By the appointment of the Board, the Rev. A. R. Kremer took charge of it last spring. His labors thus far have had the effect to encourage the brethren and to inspire hope that his labors among them will be blessed. A reduction of \$50 has been made in the church debt. \$500 still remains to be paid. It will be gradually reduced by the efforts of the Mite Society, which maintains itself in the

congregation with commendable zeal. No statistics have been furnished to us. Appropriation last year, \$250. This year, the same. Pastor, A. R. Kremer.

Mint Spring, Trinity Mission, Augusta Co.—The new church at Mint Spring was finished last fall and a day appointed for its dedication, but when the time came for this solemn act it was decided that it should be postponed until the debt incurred should be in some way provided for. The new church, therefore, has not yet been dedicated, as there is still a debt of \$128 resting on it. A Sunday school has been gathered together, and services have been held in the church every two weeks, which are well attended. As the Middlebrook charge has been strengthened by a new church and a new congregation in the town of Middlebrook, it is now proposed to reconstruct it and unite one of its congregations with Trinity Mission, so as to strengthen it and put it in the way of becoming self-sustaining. The Board has agreed to this arrangement, and, with the help of the Virginia Classis, proposes to make a small appropriation to each of the new charges, so soon as the new arrangement can be carried out. In a few years it is believed that there will be two respectable charges, where five years ago we had only one, and that without standing or influence. Appropriation last year, \$150. Pastor, A. J. Whitmore.

DELAWARE.

St. John's, Wyoming, Kent County.—In the early part of the year this charge became vacant by the resignation of the pastor, Rev. E. H. Dieffenbacher. A successor, however, was secured soon afterwards, so that it was not long vacant. Members, 95; Baptisms, 6; Additions, 5; Sunday-school scholars, 75; cost of property, \$2,000. No indebtedness. Benevolence, \$23.30. Local objects, \$394.23. The failure in some of the crops has been a loss to the mission, but being rooted and grounded in the truth, it is making progress, and its prospects are encouraging. Organized as a mission in 1870. Appropriation last year, \$250. This year, \$150. Pastor, N. J. Miller.

MARYLAND.

Cumberland.—This mission has been under the care of the Board since 1867. It had been a mission many years previously. The present pastor has had charge of it now for seven years. Its growth has been gradual and its prospects are good. Members, 156; unconfirmed members, 112; Baptisms, 15; Additions, 20; Sunday-school scholars, 110; value of property, \$5,500, of cemetery, \$1,000. Indebtedness on both \$2,000. Amount of indebtedness paid off since 1867, \$4,300; Benevolence, \$50; Local objects, \$750. Attendance good. Appropriation last year, \$200. This year, the same. Pastor, F. R. Schwedes.

Ridgely, Caroline Co.—This mission at present consists of three congregations, the first at Ridgely, the second in Queen Ann Co., and the third near Easton, in Talbot Co. Members, 73; Sunday-school scholars, 35; Baptisms, 14; Additions, 9. The new church at Ridgely is under roof but not yet finished, for the want of funds. The new church in Talbot county was dedicated a short time ago. It is a union church and cost between \$400 and \$500. Provision was made at the dedication to pay off all remaining indebtedness by the different denominations represented in it, four in number. The congregation in Kent county, which is small, has not as yet any church. It worships in private houses, and, in the summer time, in a grove. It has met with losses by

deaths and removals, which have prevented it from securing for itself a building of its own. The missionary has not been adequately supported, as the mission at Ridgely did not raise the amount of salary which was expected. The loss, however, was partially made up by missionary boxes and private contributions from friends of missions in Pennsylvania. He will need similar help during the coming winter. Appropriation last year, \$325; this year, the same. Pastor, Joseph Hanabery.

East Baltimore.—The attention of the Board has been directed by the Classis of Maryland to the eastern portion of the city of Baltimore as a suitable place for the establishment of a new mission. Arrangements are at present being made to put up a chapel for the use of a mission Sunday-school and for preaching. One of the resident ministers of our church has consented to take charge of this interest for the present without any compensation.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Concord, Cabarrus Co.—At the recommendation of the Missionary Committee of the Classis of North Carolina, the Rev J. D. Gurley was commissioned to labor as missionary at Concord, about one year ago. We had some valuable members in the town, who came forward and were organized into a congregation. Services have been held regularly in a hall fitted up for the purpose every Sunday, and a fair beginning has been made. Mr. Gurley taught school for a while in order to minister to his support, but other schools having sprung up in the town this resort has failed him for the present. An effort was made at the Classis to connect some country congregations with the mission, but it was deemed premature at the time. This, however, may yet be accomplished. Mr. Gurley has accepted of invitations to preach in nearly all the charges of the Classis, where his services were well received and highly appreciated. In this way, as also by visiting missionary points in the bounds of the Classis, it is believed that his usefulness will be much increased from year to year. Appropriation, \$250. Pastor, J. D. Gurley.

Lincolnton.—A good while ago, there was a flourishing Reformed congregation at Lincolnton, but owing to different causes it was suffered to decline, and nearly all of its members connected themselves with other denominations. For a number of years no Reformed minister preached in the place. A few members—only a few—remained true to the church of their fathers, and it was thought best to supply these with preaching, and to make an effort to revive the congregation, if possible. The Rev. J. A. Foil, who had been preaching occasionally in the town, was commissioned during the year by the Board to take charge of this interest, with a small appropriation. He has been preaching at this point once in four weeks, and has had good audiences. It, however, needs more attention than Mr. Foil can give it in connection with his other engagements. It may possibly be connected with other points within the bounds of Classis hereafter, where preaching is called for, and a new missionary field be formed, in which good results might be expected. A small class of catechumens has been formed at Lincolnton. Appropriation, \$50. Pastor, J. A. Foil.

Moffitt's Grove.—This congregation came under the care of the Board during the past year. The members were poor, and the Rev. J. W. Cecil had served it for several years with little or no compensation. It has no church of its own, but has been worshipping in a school house,

conveniently adapted to its purposes. Under these circumstances it was constituted a mission, and the Board made a small appropriation for the support of its pastor. Mr. Cecil has recently withdrawn from the field, and it will devolve on the Classis to provide for its spiritual wants, either by connecting it with some other charge or by temporary supplies through its missionary committee. Members, 41; Baptisms, 2; Additions 1; Appropriation, \$50. Vacant.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.—During the past year the attention of this mission has been mainly occupied in securing for itself a suitable house of worship. The members were first called on for their subscriptions, and they all gave liberally for their circumstances. The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Sontag, then spent several months in visiting the churches, and succeeded in raising the amount of subscriptions to a little over \$2,000, when steps were taken by the committee of Maryland Classis to go forward with the erection of a new church. The contract was awarded to good and responsible persons. It is in good taste, in the style of Queen Ann, and the cost will be \$4,100. The building is now in the process of erection. It is expected to be paid for by the subscriptions already received and some that are still to be secured, which will be supplemented by the proceeds of the assessments made on the Classes, after all the payments on the ground are made. There are still two payments to be made on the ground—one this fall and the other next spring—of \$607 each. After the building is finished, and the congregation has the conveniences of a church of its own, the mission will be placed on a permanent foundation, and with the divine blessing will succeed. The labors of the pastor have been interrupted during the year, partly by sickness and partly by necessary absence from home. Fifteen persons have been added to the church, five baptized and two buried. The Sunday-school is yet small. Appropriation, \$600; this year, the same. Pastor, C. F. Sontag.

NEW YORK.

New York.—Our Board has continued to assist the Board of the Eastern German Synod, in the support of this mission. The members composing it had felt it to be their duty to withdraw from an independent congregation, in which they had been accustomed to worship, and organize themselves into a congregation, under Pastor Fox, as missionary. During the past year a reconciliation was effected between the two divisions, and a new organization accomplished, distinctively Reformed, in connection with the German Synod, under the pastorsehip of Mr. Fox. The re-union was cordial, and the event was celebrated by a special service in the church last spring. The mission has a church of its own on 9th Avenue near 50th Street, well located to exert a good influence on a large class of foreign Germans in the city. Appropriation, \$300. Pastor, F. Fox.

KANSAS.

St. Paul's Reformed Church, Emporia.—Under the care of the Board two years—members, 25; unconfirmed members, 25; baptisms, 6; additions, 6; losses, 11; cost of property, \$3000; Indebtedness, \$600; for benevolence, \$5; for local objects, in addition to what was paid for the erection of the church, \$175. The new church was dedicated last November, amidst general rejoicing in the Mission, and among its friends on the outside. The event helped to inspire confidence and to place

the Mission on a more permanent basis. Since June last, the pastor has been supplying a mission at Holton, in Jackson County, which had lost its pastor, and was suffering seriously. Under his care it has revived somewhat, and a catechetical class has been formed. He also preached at Whiting, twelve miles distant from Holton, and has been preparing the way for organizations at Valley Falls and Harensville, with the view of connecting these points with Holton, and so form a pastoral charge. He further visited Iola, in Kansas, and Raymore in Missouri, near the State line, baptized the children, and sought to prepare the way for the labors of a missionary in the future. His attention was directed to other points, but his time would not allow him to visit them. The missionary labors under the disadvantage of not owning a conveyance, and is without the means of hiring one when needed to enable him to visit various points in the neighborhood. After these openings for the establishment of new missions were reported the Board deemed it necessary to send another missionary to Kansas, and accordingly, commissioned the Rev. L. M. Hensell, of Virginia, at his own request, to proceed to Kansas, and to co-operate with Mr. Shoemaker in cultivating the field, which seemed to be whitening for the harvest. Mr. Hensell, when last heard from, was at Iola, examining the ground with the view of locating himself and commencing his missionary work. Mr. Shoemaker found that his support was inadequate, and it was to some extent supplemented by missionary boxes and gifts of money last winter from the friends of missions in the East. Similar help will be needed to sustain both of our missionaries in Kansas, and the one in Nebraska, during the coming winter. Unless something of this kind is done, we fear that they will be driven from the field. As the Board has commenced missionary operations in these two States, it will be necessary for the Church to sustain the missionaries in their self-denying work, or else all that we have been doing thus far will come to nought. Appropriation to Mr. Shoemaker, \$300. For travelling expenses, \$100. Appropriation to Mr. Hensell, \$300.

NEBRASKA.

Aurora.—Last spring the Rev. Edmond Erb was commissioned as missionary to Nebraska at his own request. He was to some extent acquainted with the field, and felt himself strongly moved to give up his charge in Ohio, in order that he might supply the membership of the church in Nebraska, scattered about as sheep without a shepherd, with the means of grace, and gather them together into congregations. The Board were pleased to accept of his offer to labor in the waste places of our Zion in the Far West. He has now been several months in the field, and most of his time has been occupied in making explorations. He reports that he finds members of the Reformed Church in many places, some of whom have left the church of their fathers, whilst many were still waiting for a minister of their own faith to preach to them the gospel. He has located himself at Aurora, and made it the centre of his missionary operations. He preaches at present in the court-house in the town, and at several school-houses in the country, where he expects soon to organize congregations. His work commends itself to the sympathy and prayers of the church. Appropriation \$300. Pastor, Edmond Erb.

CALIFORNIA.

Salem's Church, Napa.—The spiritual interests of this mission suffered much from the want of a pastor during the previous year. When

the present missionary took charge of it, about one year ago, very few members seemed to be left—apparently only two. He has, however, succeeded in gathering together the scattered sheep, and the condition of the mission has improved under his care. Members, 67. Baptisms, 8. Gathered in, 65. Benevolence, \$13. Local objects, \$330. Cost of property, \$4,000. Indebtedness, \$500. Reduction of indebtedness during the year, \$50. Under the care of the Board eight years. Indifference to the claims of missions, on the part of many of the foreign Germans, presents many difficulties in the way of the mission, but faithful labor among them is sure to bear good fruit. The field is large, and more laborers are needed to assist in cultivating it as it should be. Appropriation, \$300. Pastor, E. DeGeller.

Alameda.—The Rev. Charles Hartman, of Indiana, having expressed a desire to labor among the foreign Germans in California, was commissioned as missionary to Alameda last spring. He took charge of the mission that had been served for a time by one who turned out to be unworthy of his office. He found many of his countrymen who needed the gospel, but manifested little or no interest in having it preached to them. They had, in some degree, lost confidence in ministers, as well as in Christianity itself. This made the beginning of his work somewhat inauspicious, but he has not become discouraged. He preaches at present in a rented hall, and has succeeded in gathering the children together into a Sunday-school, which is growing, and promises well for the future. The beginning seems to be feeble, and the work arduous; but we have the assurance that brother Hartman's labors for the souls of men will not be in vain in the end. He is well qualified for the work which he has undertaken, and is much needed to assist the brethren already in the field in planting the pure Christian faith in the place of Satan's synagogue. Appropriation, \$400. Pastor, C. Hartman.

OREGON.

Portland.—Membership, 172; 110 at Portland, 13 at Sandy, organized into a congregation during the year. 50 at German Creek and the Dalles, also lately organized. Two Sunday-schools, with ninety scholars. Something over \$1,000 were raised for congregational purposes, such as salary, sexton, fuel, and the debt of \$365 mentioned in last year's report. \$70 were raised in the congregation for the completion of a new church in Rev. Lange's charge. The missionary has spent much time in exploring the country and in organizing new churches, and it has become necessary to send other laborers into the field to assist him in his work. Accordingly two new missionaries were commissioned by the Board at its late meeting, to labor in Oregon, in fields to be assigned to them by the Classis of Portland. They came from the Pilger-Mission of St. Chrischona, at Basel, Switzerland, and are highly recommended for the work by Inspector Rappard. Their names are A. Kreuter and F. Ewald. Pastor Gantenbein says that, in addition to the points which he has been trying to hold until relief should come, there are yet a dozen prominent cities and German settlements of great promise to our church on the north Pacific coast, as yet untouched by us, which we should take possession of soon, before it is too late. Appropriation, last year, \$250. Pastor, John Gantenbein.

Salem.—The annual report of this mission has failed to reach us, and so we cannot give statistics. The missionary serves two small congregations of Germans, one at Salem, the capital of the State, which is still

without a church, and the other at Waldo Hills, which completed its church during the year for something over \$500. He preaches at other points, in school-houses and private houses. Latterly he has been preaching regularly at Mehannah, a summer resort, which in the course of time might be made the centre of a new missionary field. He continues to explore the country, to visit from house to house, and to encourage his fellow-countrymen to wait in faith until Providence sends them a shepherd to gather them into the folds of their own church. Appropriation, last year, \$250; this year, \$200. Pastor, Jacob Muell-haupt.

Canby, Clackamas Co.—Under the Board $2\frac{3}{4}$ years. Congregations, 3. Members, 70. Additions, 47. Gain, 43. Baptisms, 5. S. S. scholars, 39. Local objects, \$400. During the past year the pastor, Rev. Julius Lange, organized two new congregations, one at Oregon City, and the other at New Era, seven miles distant. The first, the St. Peter's Church, owns three acres of land, on which there is a parsonage, which serves at present as a house of worship. The second, the St. John's Church, has taken measures to put up a new church for its use. An eligible piece of ground has been donated for the purpose, and subscriptions in money, labor and material secured. As the people are mostly beginners, and still poor, the Board, in accordance with the request of the Portland Classis, has contributed \$50 to encourage and assist in this movement. The small church erected by the congregation at Meridian, referred to in last year's report, has been finished, and is now paid for. It is worth \$650 at present, and in a short time it will be worth considerably more. Brother Lange, owing to fewness of laborers in the field, has preached at various other points within the bounds of the Classis. His health, which had somewhat suffered in consequence of his arduous labors, has, we are glad to report, been restored to him. Appropriation, last year, \$200; this year the same. Pastor, Julius Lange.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Walla Walla.—This mission was supplied for some time by Rev. George Macchtersheimer. During the past year, by the advice of his Classis, he was induced to transfer his labors to another place in the Territory. The field is still vacant, and, as it is an important one, efforts will be made to supply it with a suitable missionary, it is hoped, at an early day. Appropriation last year, \$200. Vacant.

Seattle, Puget Sound.—By the advice of the Portland Classis, Mr. Macchtersheimer was commissioned to labor as missionary at this point. He was well received by his fellow-countrymen, and his prospects of success in this field are encouraging. Appropriation, \$200. Pastor, George Macchtersheimer,

Ursinus Union.—The Rev. F. W. Kremer, D. D., Treasurer of the Church and Committee of the Ursinus Union, reports that since the last annual meeting of Synod he has received for missionary purposes, \$760.49. Three hundred dollars of this amount has passed through the hands of our Treasurer for the support of a mission under the care of the Board. The balance has been paid into the Treasuries of other missionary boards of the church.

SUMMARY.

Number of missions.....	45
Members in the missions.....	4,159
Baptisms during the year.....	470

Additions during the year.....	588
Sunday-school scholars.....	3,406
Amount collected for benevolence.....	\$932
" " local objects.....	\$18,929
Cost of property.....	\$164,000
Indebtedness	\$27,450

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

From the treasurer's report it will appear that the income of the Board during the year, from all sources, was \$12,220.85. To this, however, must be added over \$1,000, received by the treasurer for the Washington Chapel, not included in the income as given above. The amount then would be \$13,294. Last year the income was \$15,403, which was larger than usual, because many of the contributions came in the form of thank-offerings for the return of peace and reconciliation in the church—supposed to be \$5,000. The difference between the receipts of the two years is less than was anticipated, and the income during the past year was larger than during any previous ordinary year. There was due our missionaries in salary, on the first of October, \$4,000, with a balance in the treasury of \$1,240.

The following statement of the income of the Board for missions in former years—since 1860—may be interesting and instructive at the present time:

For the coming year the Board will need \$15,000 at least—more if possible—in order to meet current expenses; for which we suggest that the three Synods interested be requested to adopt measures to raise the following amounts:

The Synod of the United States.....	\$8,500
The Synod of the Potomac	3.750
The Synod of Pittsburgh.....	2,750

RECOMMENDATIONS.

That the Synods request each congregation within their bounds, to take up one collection during the year, for the purpose of creating a Church Building Fund, to assist missions to erect churches, either in the way of a loan or a donation.

That the Synods request all the ministers and pastoral charges to be more careful hereafter, that the assessments made for missions be more fully met.

That missionary festivals be held in each Classis, and in the different congregations; that missionary societies be organized and encouraged in each congregation or Sunday School; that missionary intelligence be diffused in all our churches, and our people be urged to give more liberally, so that our missionaries may be more promptly paid and encouraged in their work.

A RETROSPECT.

As the period for which the Superintendent of Missions was appointed by the three Synods, conjointly, comes to a close during the present year, it is proper at this time to make a brief review of our missionary work during the period of time he has been in office. It is a matter of encouragement to the Church that the cause of missions has been prospered, and that it has not been without manifest tokens of the divine favor.

Most of the missions reported four years ago, are still under the care of the Board. Only a few of them have become self-sustaining. Others, to a greater or less extent, are approaching to the point when they will be able to provide for themselves. The most marked feature of our missionary work during that period of time is found in its enlargement or expansion. Following, what were deemed clear indications of Divine Providence, the Board established a number of new and interesting missions. The mission at Johnstown, from an humble and inauspicious beginning, has grown up and is making cheering progress, having secured for itself a church of its own, not encumbered with any remaining debt. Other missions have been established within the bounds of the Pittsburgh Synod—at Latrobe, New Castle, and more recently at other points, which, however, have not as yet, been supplied with missionary pastors. St. Luke's mission, at Lancaster, Pa., which grew out of a Mission Sunday-School, was commenced in 1879, and has been successful in erecting for itself a new Church, with no large amount of indebtedness resting on it. The present missionary at Emporia, Kansas, was commissioned in the year 1879. He organized the flock, which had been gathered together by his predecessor, into a congregation, and has been successful in putting up a neat church for its use, whilst he has explored different parts of the State, and visited various places where members of the Reformed Church have settled. Quite recently the Board has sent out another missionary to co-operate with him in building up the waste places of our Zion in that State. Last spring a missionary was commissioned to the neighboring State of Nebraska, where he finds many members of our church, among whom he proposes to build up missionary churches. The Mission in San Francisco became self-supporting some three years ago, and it soon became necessary for the Board to commission another laborer to assist in carrying forward the work of missions among the Foreign Germans in San Francisco and suburbs. Four years ago we had only two missionaries in Oregon and Washington territory; now we have four, and we will have six, as soon as two, from the Missionary Institute of St. Chrischona, Basel, now in this county, shall have reached their field of labor. The first mission in Oregon was started about six years ago at Portland. It is now nearly or quite self-supporting—a source of encouragement and hope to other missions growing up around it. The increase of laborers on the Pacific Coast led to the formation of two Classes instead of one. The Mission of Middlebrook, Va., has become self-supporting, and a new one established in the neighborhood. In North Carolina, three new missions have commenced within the past year, which it is hoped will assist in reviving and strengthening our Church in the South.

But whilst we have endeavored to provide for the spiritual wants of our people in the West and the South, and in smaller towns and villages in the East, we have not overlooked the destitution of our larger cities. Over one year ago we undertook to assist the eastern German Board in

sustaining a German mission in the city of New York; have lately commenced a promising English mission in Philadelphia, and are just about adopting measures to establish one in the city of Baltimore. It is only the want of means that has prevented us from having an English mission in the city of Boston, and extending our work among the foreign Germans in New England. The mission in Washington, D. C., is now in its fourth year, and has encouraging prospects of permanence and success. All this shows, that, limited as our resources are, we can, with prudence and care, extend our work also into our large cities, and build up churches for our people, who are continually flowing into them from the country.

As system and order are necessary in carrying forward the work of missions—just as much as in any other enterprise—it has been a primary object with the Board to encourage and foster missionary societies in our congregations and Sunday-schools. During the last four years many of these have sprung up in all directions, and have proved themselves to be a blessing to the churches, as well as perennial sources of increase to our missionary treasury. To supply these societies with missionary intelligence, as well as to awaken still more the missionary spirit among our people, a monthly missionary paper has been published under the direction of the Board, which, if properly encouraged, cannot fail, as we believe, to become one of the most potent agents in advancing our missionary interests.

From this brief review, as well as from what has appeared in our reports from year to year, it will appear that the cause of missions is advancing—making some progress among us. As a consequence, our people are becoming more interested in this department of benevolence, and their liberality is improving. During the last four years the entire amount raised for missions, as reported regularly through our treasurer was in round numbers \$46,000. The amount actually contributed, but not so reported, was considerable. It would be difficult to give the precise amount. During the previous four years the amount reported was \$36,000, showing an increase of \$10,000 during the second term of what has come to be known as the Tri-Synodic Plan.

But whilst these facts go to show that the Reformed Church in the East has made a good beginning in its missionary enterprises, it should, however, be remembered that it is only a beginning. Our increasing liberality has fallen far short of the providential openings, which God is making to us, and most manifestly inviting us to enter and cultivate. As a denomination we have the means—and we hope the heart also—of doing much more for our Divine Lord, who has done so much for us. We have, in fact, great reason to humble ourselves in the dust and to hide our faces in shame when we call to mind what we might do, and listen to the urgent calls that are made upon us for help in the many waste places of our country. It is a cause in which we can no longer stand still or be indifferent, without being guilty of the commission of a great sin, and of the perpetration of a great wrong upon those who call to us for help in their time of need. It is becoming more and more a matter that should cause ministers and members to fear and tremble, lest God should withdraw altogether the light of His countenance. Upon us, therefore, ministers of the gospel, the shepherds of the flocks, committed to our care, more especially, lies a solemn responsibility to cry aloud and spare not, until our Reformed Zion awakes from her slumbers, and puts on her strength and her beautiful garments.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL,

Superintendent of Missions.

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 4, 1881.

III. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD
OF MISSIONS.

The following report was received from the Treasurer of the Board of Missions:—

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I regret to announce to the Board, and through it to the Synods and the Church at large, that the finances are not in as promising a condition as at the date of my last annual report.

The contributions have fallen off very seriously during the year, being more than twenty-four hundred dollars less than during the previous year.

Some of the Classes have, it is gratifying to state, increased their contributions very handsomely, but others, alas, have come far behind.

The present indebtedness of the Board to the missionaries is nearly \$4,000, towards paying which there is in the treasury a balance of \$1,230.97, leaving an actual indebtedness of more than \$2,700.

Unless the Church manifests more liberality during the present year, the number of missions must be reduced and the salaries of the missionaries cut down. Such a step is painful to contemplate, and it is earnestly hoped may be averted by God's people increasing their offerings so that His reign may be extended and His kingdom come.

The following statement exhibits the sources and amounts contributed for Missions, viz :

Synod of the United States.

Classis of Philadelphia	\$ 116 00
" Tolickon	689 28
" Goshenhoppen	1536 75
" East Pennsylvania	809 45
" Lebanon	1529 61
" Lancaster	761 45
" East Susquehanna	353 00
" West Pennsylvania	662 20
" Lehigh	473 74
Total from the Synod of the United States	\$ 6,931 48

Synod of the Potomac.

Classis of Zion	\$ 387 15
" Maryland	910 12
" Mercersburg	1006 25
" Virginia	170 95
" San Francisco	15 00
" North Carolina	72 41
Total from the Synod of the Potomac	\$ 2,561 88

Synod of Pittsburg.

From the Treasurer of Synod	\$ 2,062 49
	11,555 85

Miscellaneous Sources.

From Locke legacy (principal)	\$ 500 00
" " " (interest)	135 00
" Adelaide Dechant legacy	24 00
" Gerhart legacy	6 00
Balance in Treasury Oct. 11, 1880 . . .	963 86
	\$ 1,628 86
Total from all sources	13,184 71

Disbursements.

Paid orders of the Board during year	\$11,568 74
Paid Treasurer Iowa Classis . . .	35 00
Paid Treasurer Iowa Classis per Treas- urer Pittsburgh Synod . . .	350 00
Balance in the Treasury Oct. 3, 1881	1,230 97
Respectfully submitted,	13,184 71

Wm. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.**Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 3, 1881.*

We, the undersigned, a committee appointed by the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church for that purpose, beg leave to report that we have examined the Treasurer's Report with the accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct, with a balance of \$1,230.97 in the Treasury.

Witness our hands this 3d day of October, 1881.

W. H. H. SNYDER, }
D. W. GROSS, } Committee.

IV. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions beg leave to offer the following as their report:

There have been referred to us for consideration the Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and an overture from Iowa Classis, asking for a special appropriation for missions within its bounds.

In the reports from the Tri-Synodic Board and its officers we find the following matters requiring action on the part of this Synod, namely: A request that \$3750.00 be furnished by this Synod for Missions, during the ensuing year; and also certain recommendations respecting collections for a Building Fund, Missionary Festivals, and Missionary Societies. With regard to these things we would recommend the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod assume the \$3750.00, suggested by the Board, as our portion of the \$15,000.00 needed to carry forward the work now in hand, and that it be apportioned as follows: Zion's Classis \$1150.00, Maryland Classis \$1150.00, Mercersburg Classis \$1100.00, Virginia Classis \$300.00, North Carolina Classis \$150.00, San Francisco Classis \$25.00, and Portland-Oregon Classis \$25.00—making \$3900.00.

Resolved, That the Classes of this Synod be urgently enjoined to make every proper effort to meet their respective apportionments.

Resolved, That the Classes of this Synod be instructed to enjoin upon their pastors to take up, during the ensuing year, at such time as may be most suitable, in each congregation a collection for a Church-Building Fund.

Resolved, That the Classes of this Synod be also recommended to hold Missionary Festivals within their respective bounds, during each year, and to take such further action as will lead to the organization of Missionary Societies in all their congregations.

As regards the overture of Iowa Classis, we would suggest the following action:

Resolved, That Iowa Classis be requested to place its missions so far, at least, under the Tri-Synodic Board, as to report annually their condition and the amounts contributed for their support, to said Board.

Resolved, That the sum of \$450.00 be raised by this Synod for missions within the bounds of Iowa Classis, and that this amount be apportioned as follows: Zion's Classis \$150.00, Maryland Classis \$150.00, Mercersburg Classis \$130.00, Virginia Classis \$10.00, and North Carolina Classis \$10.00—said amounts to be paid over by the Classes to the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic

Board, to be forwarded by him to the Iowa Classis, when said Classis has complied with the request in the foregoing resolution.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary of this body be instructed to inform Iowa Classis of this action.

Your Committee would further report, that by instructions of Synod arrangements were made for a Missionary meeting, during the sessions of this Synod. This meeting was held on the evening of the second day of its sessions. Rev. Dr. Miller presided over the meeting, and suitable addresses were delivered by Revs. J. M. Titzel, Dr. T. Appel, and W. Rupp. A collection was also taken up for missionary purposes in the field of Rev. Julius Lange in Oregon, which amounted to \$50.00, including a supplemental collection on Sunday evening.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. TITZEL, *Chairman.*

The Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board acknowledges the reception, during the year, of the following sums for the Washington Mission Chapel, to wit: Lebanon Classis \$148.10, Lancaster Classis \$134.67, West Susquehanna Classis \$99.00, Lehigh Classis \$66.00, Goshenhoppen Classis \$50.00 = \$497.77; Mercersburg Classis \$551.31, Zion's Classis \$105.40, North Carolina Classis \$25.00, Virginia Classis \$18.00 = \$699.71; miscellaneous sources \$32.40. Total \$1229.86.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Monday evening, Rev. Dr. Theodore Appel was elected as Synod's choice for Missionary Superintendent for the period of four years, and Revs. J. M. Titzel and Dr. Weisz were elected as members of the Synodic Board of Missions for a like term of years.

MEMBERS OF THE SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. J. M. Titzel	4 years	October, 1885
" I. S. Weisz	4 "	" 1885
" E. R. Eschbach	3 "	" 1884
" E. N. Kremer	3 "	" 1884
" G. W. Welker	2 "	" 1883
" J. O. Miller	1 "	" 1882
Elder S. Dutrow	1 "	" 1882

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

LEWIS H. STEINER, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.*

DR.	
Oct. 21, 1880. To balance in the Treasury	\$281 13
" " To amount of cash and subscriptions collected at Synod for Missions	58 88
Jan. 12, 1881. To cash from C. A. Schultz, Treasurer Zion's Classis, on assessment of said Classis for 1879-80	100 00
Feb. 25, 1881. To cash from ditto, being balance on said assessment with interest	64 72
May 6, 1881. To cash from Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Treasurer Mercersburg Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	160 00
" 12, 1881. To cash from Rev. S. S. Miller, Treasurer Maryland Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	160 00
July 22, 1881. To cash from Rev. T. Long, Treasurer North Carolina Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	25 00
Aug. 1, 1881. To cash from C. A. Shultz, Treas. Zion's Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	160 00
" 9, 1881. To cash from Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, Treasurer Virginia Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	40 00
	<hr/>
	\$1049 73

CONTRA CR.

Oct. 21, 1880. By cash to Rev. A. J. Whitmore for Mint Springs Mission, being Synodical collection	58 88
Dec. 16, 1880. By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Treas. Board of Education,—one year's interest on Stoudenour legacy	12 00
Jan 12, 1881. By cash to Lewis Markell on loan made to Synod for Publication Board	100 00
" 24, 1881. By cash to Ref. Ch. Publication Board for printing 2000 copies of Minutes of Synod for 1880	135 00
April 2, 1881. By cash to Rev. G. E. Addams, Pastor of Churchtown Church, one year's interest on Brechbill legacy	12 00
May 2, 1881. By cash to W. D. Gross, Treas. General Synod,—assessment for Contingent Fund	260 00
" 6, 1881. By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk's salary	100 00
" " 1881. By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk's expenses	13 00
" 12, 1881. By cash to Louis Markell, on loan	133 85
Aug. 1, 1881. By Cash to Louis Markell in full payment of balance on loan and interest	74 16
Oct. 19, 1881. By balance in Treasury	150 84
	<hr/>
	\$1049 73

Liabilities of Synod.

Stoudenour Bequest to Board of Education, with interest from December 15, 1880	200 00
Brechbill Bequest to Churchtown Pastor, with interest from April 2, 1881	200 00
	<hr/>
	\$400 00

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS H. STEINER, *Treasurer.*

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance submitted their report, during the session of Tuesday forenoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on Finance report, that they examined the Treasurer's Report and found it correct, with a balance of \$150.84 in the Treasury.

To meet the contingent expenses of the Synod, and liabilities assumed by the Synod, at this meeting, your Committee suggest the following assessment for contingent expenses, assessment of the General Synod, and pledge to Mercersburg College: Zion's Classis, Maryland Classis, and Mercersburg Classis, each, \$275.00; Virginia Classis, \$50.00; and North Carolina Classis, \$30.00. Making \$905.00.

To meet the deficiency in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster and the note of Mrs. N. Fisher, deceased, your Committee recommend the following assessments: Zion's Classis, Maryland Classis, and Mercersburg Classis, each, \$325.00; Virginia Classis, \$75.00; and North Carolina Classis, \$50. Making \$1100.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. HELLER, *Chairman.*

In the absence of any report from the Board of Trustees of Synod, Rev. M. H. Sangree, agent of said Board to collect the balance due on loan effected by the Board by order of the Synod several years ago, submitted the following report to the Synod, which was received and adopted, to wit:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

As agent of the Board of Trustees, appointed by your body at the Synod of Winchester, A. D. 1875, for the securement of the Two Thousand Dollar Loan for the relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board, the undersigned would report, that he has been unable to make any collections within the past year, but hopes to be able to pay over to the Synod one hundred dollars within the enrrrent year.

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. SANGREE, *Agent.*

At the election for members of the several Boards of Synod, Elder J. Taylor Motter was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod for the term of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder J. Taylor Motter	5 years	January 1, 1887
Rev. J. T. Kossitter	4 "	January 1, 1886
Elder Louis Markel	3 "	January 1, 1885
" H. Wirt Shriver	2 "	January 1, 1884
Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich	1 "	January 1, 1883 . . .

ARTICLE XVI.

'APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, under item 9, reported a complaint to Synod by the Rev. A. Wanner, against the action of Zion's Classis in dividing his pastoral charge. The Standing Committee on Overtures, under items 2 and 7, report overtures to Synod on the same subject. The matter was referred to a special committee consisting of Revs. J. S Kieffer, J. M. Titzel, Dr. Staley, and Elders W. Dice and E. Williard, to examine whether or not the Complaint be in order, and if found in order, report an order of trial. The Committee reported, on Monday evening, as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee to whom was referred the Complaint of Rev. A. Wanner against certain action of Zion's Classis, would respectfully report, that having examined the papers placed in their hands relating to said Complaint, they have found it to be in order, and accordingly recommend the following provision for the hearing and settling of it:

1. That the hearing of this Complaint be the order of the day for Tuesday morning, immediately after the opening of Synod.
2. That the papers relating to the Complaint be read.
3. That twenty minutes be allowed to the Complainant, and afterwards to the Classis, for the presentation respectively of the Complaint and defence.
4. That, thereupon, the vote be taken, in the usual way, without any debate.

Respectfully submitted, J. S. KIEFFER, Chairman.

Rev. Dr. Kieffer was recognized as the attorney of the Classis in the case. At the appointed time the Complaint was taken up. On motion, the Complaint was sustained. A special committee, consisting of Revs. J. M. Titzel, Dr. Santee, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders G. Harbaugh and A. Raab, was appointed to give an explanation of the sense of Synod's action in sustaining the Complaint. This committee subsequently presented the following report, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee appointed to report the effect of the sustaining of the Complaint beg leave to report, that this action has made the action of the Classis as regards the reconstruction of the Rev. A. Wanner's pastoral charge null and void.

Respectfully submitted, J. M. TITZEL, Chairman.

ARTICLE XVIII. SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board submitted its annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday morning, which was received, and its consideration was made the order of the day for Friday afternoon at three o'clock. The Report is as follows:

REPORT OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

The great and growing importance of the Sunday-school interest in our Church should challenge from this Synod careful consideration, earnest discussion, and wise and wholesome legislation. In our time, the Sunday-school

is a prominent agent in the spiritual training of the young, and it behooves the Church to see to it that the instruction coming from this source is suited and answerable for the end in view. Chief attention should be given to the lessons and helps which are needed to carry forward the instruction of the children and to indoctrinate them in the doctrines of the Bible. These should be the very best which the talent of the Church can supply. In an average Sunday-school, there is found material for at least two grades, calling for lessons and helps which are suited to them, and the Church should see to it that these wants are properly met, and the Board would call the special attention of this Synod to this interesting point in our Sunday-school work.

The Board arranged the following programme, with topics and the speakers to open the discussions: Topic I. 1. The qualifications necessary for a successful Sunday-school teacher; 2. How to prepare the lesson; 3. The best method to teach. Speakers, Revs. J. M. Titzel and B. R. Carnahan. Topic II. 1. The series of Sunday-school lessons—international or independent? 2. In what way should the lessons be prepared, so as best to meet the wants of the school and promote its prosperity? For the discussion of the first topic, the Board would ask this body to set apart Friday evening, and would recommend that the second topic be made the order of the day for Friday afternoon.

The Treasurer of the Board reports the amount of \$50.00 in hand.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE, *President.*

Friday evening was set apart as the time for holding the usual Sunday-school anniversary, at which time the first topic was discussed, as asked for by the Board. At the designated hour, on Friday afternoon, the second topic was taken up by the Synod, and discussed until the hour for adjournment arrived, without disposing of it. After further discussion of it, during part of the sessions of Saturday morning and Monday morning, the subject was disposed of by the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Synod, that the Lessons used in the Sunday-schools of our Church should be in harmony with the order of the Church Year.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of the Synod, Rev. B. R. Carnahan was chosen a member of the Sunday-school Board for the term of five years, and Rev. F. F. Bahner for two years.

MEMBERS OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. B. R. Carnahan	5 years	October, 1886.
“ Dr. Zieber	4 “	“ 1885.
Elder G. S. Griffith	3 “	“ 1884.
Rev. F. F. Bahner	2 “	“ 1883.
“ Dr. Santee	1 “	“ 1882.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, under item 4, reported a request from the Zion's Classis, asking for a division of said Classis into three Classes. On motion, the request was granted.

It was ordered, that the following ministers, together with the following pastoral charges form and constitute the *Gettysburg Classis*, to wit: Revs. W. K. Zieber, D. D., J. D. Zehring, M. Kieffer, D. D., A. J. Heller, J. Kretzing, W. D. Lefevre, S. F. Laury, D. U. Wolff, H. Hilbush, W. E. Krebs, and D. N. Dittmar, and the pastoral charges of Gettysburg, Conowago, Christ Church, Abbottstown, Littlestown, and East Berlin in Adams county, and Hanover, Emanuel's, and Manheim in York county. It was also ordered, that the following ministers, together with the following pastoral charges, form and constitute the *Carlisle Classis*, to wit: Revs. W. R. H. Deatrich, F. S. Lindaman, G. W. Glessner, D. D., U. H. Heilman, J. M. Mickly, A. H. Kremer, D. D., G. E. Addams, and H. T. Spangler and the pastoral charges of Carlisle, Mechanicsburg, Newburg, and Sulphur Spring in Cumberland county, and New Bloomfield, Landisburg, Zion's, and Duncannon, and St. Andrew's congregation in Perry county. The Zion's Classis to consist of the remaining ministers and pastoral charges of the Classis.

Revs. J. M. Titzel, J. W. Santee, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders W. Dice and A. Raab were appointed a special committee to name the place, time, and individuals to preside at the organizations of the new Classes. This committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee, appointed to make arrangements for the organization of the new Classes, which Synod has formed out of the territory of Zion's Classis, beg leave to report the following for adoption:

Resolved, That the division go into effect immediately after the next annual meeting of Zion's Classis.

Resolved, That the Gettysburg Classis meet for organization in Gettysburg, Pa., on Wednesday evening, June 14th, 1882, at 8 o'clock, and that the Rev. Dr. Kieffer preside.

Resolved, That the Carlisle Classis meet for organization in Carlisle, Pa., on Wednesday evening, June 14th, 1882, at 8 o'clock, and that the Rev. Dr. Kremer preside.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. TITZEL, *Chairman.*

The General Synod having announced that the amendment to the Constitution, allowing each District Synod to determine the basis and mode of representation of the Classes in the District Synods, had been constitutionally adopted, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That whenever the Synod of the Potomac shall meet as a delegated body, the ratio of representation of the Classes constituting the Synod shall be on the basis of one minister and one elder for every four ministers enrolled, and fractional part thereof.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk, in reference to the publication of the Minutes of the Eighth Annual meeting of Synod, and was adopted:

REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, according to instructions, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations in the case. The Minutes number nine pages more than those of the previous year, and cost \$135.00—which is the same per page as those of the former year. The work was done by the Reformed Church Publication Board, as directed.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board was received, and having been read, was referred to the Standing Committee on Publication. The Report is as follows, to wit:

Annual Report of the Board of Publication from August 1st, 1880, to July 31st, 1881.

To the Synods of the United States, the Potomac and Pittsburgh, the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States respectfully submits the following report:—

The Board during the year has held one special and three regular meetings. At each due attention was given to the interests entrusted to their charge. It takes great pleasure in reporting a continued improvement in its affairs. In all of the departments there has been an increase of receipts, and in the case of some of the Periodicals—as last year—the increase has been very decided. Only two of the latter have suffered a decrease in the number of subscribers, viz.:—*The Reformed Quarterly*, to the number of 27, and the monthly *Child's Treasury*, to the number of 490, less than last year, whilst in the others, the increase over all discontinuances is very considerable, showing a gradual and permanent gain. The following is the excess of additions over discontinuances in each case: *Messenger*, 276; *Guardian*, 249; *Child's Treasury*, (semi-monthly), 674; *Sunshine*, 932; and *Lesson Papers*, 1768. In the case of the *Messenger* it may be remembered that the number of subscribers it now has, is for the double sheet alone, so that in comparing the number of subscribers with that of last year, we find the increase is all told a small fraction over one thousand (1000). Also in the case of the *Child's Treasury*, whilst there has been a decrease in the number of subscribers for the *Monthly*, there has been a corresponding increase in those of the *Semi-monthly*.

In the Book Department, as a whole, there is an improvement. There seems to be a more general disposition on the part of the ministers and members of the Church to give it their patronage. And this they certainly owe to it, since it is the establishment of the Church, and, that not for the benefit pecuniarily of any particular individuals, but for that of the Church. There is still, we are sorry to say, a disposition on the part of too many to give their patronage to outside parties and ignore altogether the claims of their own Publication House. The Board would here emphatically reiterate the fact, that it has the ability and facilities for supplying any book or books at the same rates at which they can be had at any other house. Nothing, verily, is

saved to the parties thus giving their orders to other houses, whilst it is that much gain to our own house, if they favor it with them. During the year, 31,850 copies of books, &c., were printed for this department.

The usual Committee to whom is assigned the special duty of taking an account of stock and investigating the financial condition of the establishment, was appointed. They attended to their duty and submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

"Brethren of the Board of Publication:

" Your Committee appointed to take account of stock and report upon the assets and liabilities of the Board, respectfully offer the following. We find the Book department in good condition. We still have a considerable amount of unsaleable stock on hand, on much of which we place no estimated value. There is also some of the stock that has depreciated in value, which we reduced accordingly in our estimate of assets.

After throwing out all stock as valueless upon which we could not realize at once, and deducting for depreciation of stock and all bad or doubtful accounts, we find the *Assets* to be in sum total \$42,949 47

Real Estate	35,000 00
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\$77,949 47

Liabilities,	\$34,434 48
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Mortgage,	20,000 00
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54,434 48

Excess of assets	\$23,514 99
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We are glad to be able to say that our expenses are now fully within our own income, and that the prospects are, we will be able gradually to reduce our liabilities even after paying the heavy amount of interest to be met annually on mortgage and loans.

All our Periodicals are now self-sustaining, and some of them pay a handsome profit, which meets the interest account.

The wholesale department of the Book Store is also paying well, but the retail department falls considerably short of expenses, if we count reasonable rent for store room on second floor.

Through the energy of our attorney, Daniel H. Wingerd, Esq., a large amount has been collected on old accounts. We heartily recommend that the good work be continued without respect to persons, until all the old accounts be collected up.

The outlook is very encouraging, if the Synods will allow us to go forward in our own way, and our ministers and members will give us their confidence and patronage.

J. W. LOVE,
A. B. WINGERD,
GEO. GELBACH, } Committee.

Whilst it is the pleasure of the Board to report thus encouragingly of the interests under its charge, it is made to have feelings of sadness, when it here chronicles the fact that ere its present financial year had reached its close, its Superintendent and Treasurer, Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D.D., was stricken down in the midst of his labors, and called up higher. Though death met him far from his home and the scene of his many years labor for the Church, he fell at his post of duty. It may well be said, that the present encouraging condition of the affairs of the Board, is mainly owing to his untiring energy and pronounced business qualifications, not to say, to his life-long devotion and unselfish interest in the Publication affairs of the Church he loved so well, and for which he labored so abundantly. Verily, the Church will never know how much he has done and sacrificed in this particular, and

owes him a great debt of gratitude for whatever she has to-day in the way of Publication interests. He closed his earthly career in the 72d year of his age, on Whitsunday (June 5th), 1881, in Tiffin, Ohio, whither he had gone to attend the meeting of the General Synod. His remains were borne to Chambersburg, and deposited in the Cemetery of the Reformed Church, alongside of beloved dead, there to await the resurrection morn.

Immediately upon the announcement of the death of its Superintendent and Treasurer, the Board, at the call of its President, met at its rooms in special session, June 16, 1881. It recognized the life and character of its late Superintendent and Treasurer, by adopting the following minute:—

The Board of Publication has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D. D., in Tiffin, O., on Whitsunday. His intimate and long continued association with the Church has endeared and familiarized him to the great body of its members, and his intimate and cherished relations with this Board gained for him the confidence and love of all who compose it. Identified with the ministry of his Church for nearly fifty (50) years, and connected with its Publication interests for more than forty (40) years, the Church most sensibly felt and keenly appreciated his usefulness as pastor, preacher, editor and manager of its publications. Even "in a good old age," "his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated." "He died in his harness," while engaged upon an important work for the Church, which, if he had been spared to complete, would have crowned his life of useful industry.

"As a shock of corn cometh in his season," has he been gathered by the Great Harvester to his eternal reward. "Neither shall his place know him any more on earth," but on the records of the Church, and in the hearts of its members, his memory shall be unfading. Where dwell the just made perfect, is the spirit of our dead brother and friend.

The Board at the same time requested the Rev. T. G. Apple, D. D., to fill the place of Synodical Editor of the Eastern Synod, made vacant by the death of Rev. S. R. Fisher, D. D., until the next meeting of the Synod.

The Board also appointed Rev. Chas. G. Fisher, who had been his father's assistant for the past fifteen months, as its Superintendent and Treasurer until the meeting of Synods. Hence the business of the Board has gone on without any interruption and with usual care and attention, as the annual statement accompanying this report will show.

The Board, as has been mentioned in the report of the Committee of the Board, has been able to collect a goodly portion of its outstanding dues, and in this particular much is due to the Attorney of the Board, Daniel H. Wingerd, Esq. The Board has directed the Superintendent to push the matter of collections, so as to bring its business more and more to a cash basis.

The General Agent, H. K. Binkley, has met with signal success in adding to the number of subscribers to "*The Messenger*" during the year. The Board asks for him the earnest and hearty co-operation of the brethren of the Church, whose charges he may visit from time to time in the prosecution of the work he has undertaken—a work that concerns the whole Church.

The Board during the year accepted the resignation of Rev. A. C. Whitmer, as Editor of the "*Child's Treasury*," and appointed Rev. R. L. Gerhart, as his successor, who has already entered on his duties.

The Board has resolved to issue during the coming year, two (2) grades of Lesson Papers—Advanced and Primary. In order to have a uniform and satisfactory series of Lessons and Comments for the Church, the Board would respectfully ask the Synods to allow it to see to the editing and preparation of the same for the coming year.

At the Special Meeting of the Board held last June, it was informed of the disposal made by its late Superintendent and Treasurer, in his last will and Testament, of his original investment and advances as Treasurer, viz.: "that if the Board so wished, \$15,000.00 of the sum total should remain for the use

of the Board for 15 years, provided, good security should be given for its payment at the end of that period and that the interest be regularly paid." The Board by way of arriving at a settlement with the Executor of the Estate—as to the actual amount due said estate, found it to be—up to June 16th, 1881, principal and interest, \$17,886.66.

In the same will, the late Superintendent, devises to the Board of Publication, the Stereotype plates and Copyrights of his books published by the Board, viz.: "Exercises on Heidelberg Catechism," "Heidelberg Catechism Simplified," and "Family Assistant."

Among the liabilities of the Board were two notes amounting to \$2,900.00, held by the Estate of Mrs. N. Fisher, dec'd, of which Hon. John Cessna is Administrator. The Administrator having informed the Board by letter that it was his desire to settle up the estate as soon as possible, the Board made provisions for the immediate payment of the same, by making a loan through a note for four (4) months, thrown in bank, endorsed by individual members of the Board. The Board would respectfully request the Synods to make arrangements for providing the Board with funds sufficient to cancel the loan thus made when it becomes due, in the usual proportions from each Synod.

The term of service of D. W. Gross, one of the Trustees from the Synod of the United States, and that of Rev. J. W. Love, from the Synod of Pittsburgh, will expire on Jan. 1st, 1882. Hence it will devolve upon these two Synods to fill the vacancies that will thus occur in the Board at their Annual Sessions.

D. W. GROSS, President.

CHAS. G. FISHER, *Secretary pro tem.*
Philadelphia, Sept. 27th, 1881.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported, during the session of Monday evening, their report being received, considered item by item, and then adopted as a whole. The report is as follows:

To the Synod of the Potowmac :

Your Standing Committee on Publication would offer the following report.

We have had placed in our hands but one document, namely, the Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board, which we have carefully considered, and in reference to which we offer the following resolutions, as covering the action required by this Synod.

Resolved, That we heartily rejoice at the encouraging prospects and the favorable financial showing of the Board, at this time, as presented in its annual report.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to the Classes, ministers and elders within the bounds of this Synod to make every effort to introduce the publications of the Board as speedily as possible into all the families of the Church.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend the book-store of the Board to the patronage of our ministers and people.

Resolved, That whilst this Synod would have preferred to continue the arrangements heretofore existing between the three Synods, in regard to the preparation of Sunday-School Lessons and Comments for the use of our Church, yet we acquiesce in the overture of the Board, allowing them to see to the preparation of these Lessons themselves, but hoping that in doing so they will have due regard to the express wishes of this Synod in regard to the nature and character of these Lessons.

Resolved, That we recognize in the death of the Rev. S. R. Fisher, D.D., the late Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board, a mysterious Providence, and

a sad bereavement to our Church, that we are grateful to the divine Head of the Church for the eminent services rendered to our Reformed Zion by the departed servant of God, and that we shall ever cherish his name and memory as a precious legacy to the Church.

Resolved, That this Synod has no suggestions to offer in regard to the indebtedness of the Board to the estate of Rev. Dr. Fisher, deceased, but leaves this matter entirely to the management of the Board.

Resolved, That this Synod assume \$1000.00 of the amount due by the Board to the estate of Mrs. Naomi Fisher, deceased, and that this amount be apportioned by the Committee on Finance among the several Classes composing the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

W. RUPP, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was subsequently adopted :

Resolved, That this Synod approves of the election of Rev. C. G. Fisher by the Board of Publication as its Superintendent and Treasurer.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 15, the continuance of the Committee to prepare and publish, conjointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," *with music*,—with special instructions to have the same published at the earliest practicable time.

The Committee, through its chairman, presented the following report, which was received and adopted. The report is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on music for the new Hymn-book has finished its work so far as the selection of music is concerned; and by a joint-session of the Committees of the two Synods, the whole work could be soon ready for the hands of the printer. Such a joint-session was suggested, but the Chairman of the Committee of the Synod of the U. S. thought it would be time lost to hold such a session before the General Synod had met and acted upon the whole subject. The General Synod has met, and your committee deems it proper now to leave the decision of what shall be done to the Synod itself. If the Synod so directs, the committees can go on and publish the work and furnish it to the Synod within the coming Synodical year. If the Synod, however, desire to throw the whole matter into the hands of the General Synod, this report can be regarded as final, and the committee discharged. Whatever action may be taken, it would be well to inform the Synod of the U. S., to secure if possible its concurrence.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

[P. S.—*Potomac Synod in acc. with E. E. HIGBEE, Chairman.*

DR.

To 1 trip to Frederick	\$3 50
" Lancaster	6 50

Total	\$10 00
-----------------	---------

On motion, the Treasurer of Synod was ordered to pay the bill of expenses.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Goldsboro S. Griffith . . .	2 years	1883.
" Adam B. Wingerd . . .	1 year	1882.

ARTICLE XXI.
MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Monday forenoon, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received and adopted. The Chairman of the Committee was instructed to have two hundred tickets of these nominations printed for the use of the Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for Monday evening, at the opening of the session. At the time designated the election took place. Revs. N. H. Skyles and H. S. Garner, and Elders E. Williard and J. Seibert were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Regents of Mercersburg College, Missions, Trustees of Synod, and Sunday-schools.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 5, reported a statement of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., from the President of the Board of Managers and the Superintendent, presenting the condition and wants of said institution. The item was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. W. Rupp, A. J. Whitmore, R. R. Smith, and Elders J. R. Lantz and G. L. Freet. This committee, during the session of Tuesday morning, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME.

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Your special committee, to whom was referred the Annual Statement of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, would respectfully report, that they have examined said statement, and find that the Home is in a prosperous condition. The last cash payment of \$4000.00 was made during the year, leaving now only a floating debt of \$2800.00. The number of orphans in the Home at present is 66. The farm connected with the Home has yielded encouraging crops. But the Board regrets that the contributions to the Home, during the past year, were not as large as in previous years, in consequence of which but a small proportion of the fatherless applicants can be received.

Your committee would offer the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That we renewedly commend the cause of the orphans to the charity and benevolence of our people.

Resolved, That Sunday-schools, and congregations, within the bounds of this Synod, are requested to donate their Christmas offerings to Bethany Orphans' Home.

Respectfully submitted,

W. RUPP, Chairman.

The following preamble and resolution were reiterated :

WHEREAS, The Society for the Relief of Disabled Ministers and the

Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church is a subject of the greatest importance and interest to the ministry; and

WHEREAS, Disabled Ministers and Widows of Ministers are multiplying annually; therefore,

Resolved, That the Synod commends this Society to the favorable consideration of the churches, and requests the Classes within its bounds to order a collection for the benefit of the Society to be lifted in our churches, on or about the third Sunday in June next.

On motion, the several Classes and pastoral charges of the Synod, still delinquent in their apportionments for the Washington Mission Chapel, were earnestly urged to take immediate steps to raise and pay over the several amounts apportioned on them and still remaining unpaid.

The following resolution was adopted, in answer to the request of Rev. H. Miller, contained in item 10 of the Committee on Overtures :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Synod, that the manner of raising funds for congregational and benevolent purposes should be left to the judgment of pastors and consistories.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon each member of Synod to meet the necessary incidental expenses of the sessions of the Synod. Elders E. Williard, C. A. Shultz, and A. Kieffer were appointed a committee to collect said assessment. The committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted :

The committee appointed by the Synod to collect the assessment upon each member of Synod, begs leave to report, that the duty has been attended to, the amount collected being \$31.00, which has been handed over to the pastor loci, as directed by the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

E. WILLIARD, *Chairman.*

In regard to the requests of the Portland-Oregon Classis, contained in items 7 and 8 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the Synod cannot comply with the request of the Portland-Oregon Classis, to establish a German Professorship in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., at present.

Resolved, That the Synod cannot release the Portland Oregon Classis from paying the very small apportionment of only \$25.00, believing as we do that mission congregations ought to contribute something, however small it may be, to the benevolent objects of the Church.

Revs. C. Cort, M. L. Firor, C. J. Musser, H. T. Spangler, and J. David Miller were appointed a committee to report the proceedings of Synod for the public press. The committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit :

The committee, appointed to report for the public press, beg leave to submit the following : Your committee reported for daily papers in Hagerstown, Bal-

timore, Harrisburg; Lancaster and Altoona a full abstract of important proceedings and of many speeches. Our expenses for postage and stationery amount to \$1.40, which has been paid out of the special collection taken up by the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

C. CORT, *Chairman.*

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

WHEREAS, What is known as Speculative Life Insurance prevails to a great extent over certain portions of the territory embraced in this Synod ; and

WHEREAS, Such business is and can be only evil in its character and influence, by its very nature leading, in many cases, to murder in heart, and in some sections of our country has led to murder in deed ; therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod warns all the people committed to its care against engaging in this immoral traffic.

Resolved, That this action be published in the *Messenger* and in the *Christian World*, and that the pastors of this Synod be requested to read the same from their pulpits.

On Friday afternoon, a committee was appointed with power to grant leave of absence, consisting of Revs. J. Kretzing, W. A. Gring, B. R. Carnahan, and Elders G. Rosen and H. Winebrenner. The committee, just before final adjournment, reported as follows, which was received and adopted :

The Committee on Leave of Absence would report, that they granted leave of absence to the following members of Synod, to wit : Rev. C. F. Sontag after Friday's sessions ; Rev. S. F. Laury, and Elders G. S. Brodbeck and E. D. Zimmerman after Saturday morning's session ; Revs. Dr. Miller, Dr. Weisz, A. Spangler, A. J. Whitmore, C. S. Slagle, H. F. Long, and Elders G. Hollinger, J. R. Lantz, G. Rosen, J. R. Pagne, C. A. Woltman, and H. O. Neal after Sunday's services ; Revs. W. E. Krebs, M. H. Sangree, and S. M. Hench after Monday morning's session ; Rev. F. S. Lindaman and Elders J. P. Reed, J. Bixler, S. Omwake, H. Stine, D. Kump, and L. Rinker after Monday afternoon's session ; Rev. J. M. Mickly, H. Hilbush, and Elders R. Kearns and J. Seibert after Monday evening's session ; and Revs. J. Hassler, D. M. Whitmore, H. T. Spangler, S. L. Whitmore, and Elders S. Crist, A. Kieffer, L. H. Koch, and W. W. Lesh after 11 o'clock of Tuesday morning's session.

Respectfully submitted,

J. KRETZING, *Chairman.*

During Sunday night the Stated Clerk became suddenly ill, so that he was unable to attend any of the subsequent sessions of the Synod. Rev. W. C. Cremer was appointed Secretary for the sessions of Monday and Tuesday forenoon, filling the position with acceptance.

Elder John M. Hoffman, of Baltimore, Md., became dangerously ill, whilst attending the sessions of Synod, and departed this life shortly after returning home. The Synod passed the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Synod has heard with pain of the sudden and severe sickness of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, our worthy Stated Clerk, and also of Elder John M. Hoffman ; and that we hereby extend to them our warmest sympathies and hearty Christian wishes and prayers for their speedy and complete recovery.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology, appointed at the last annual meeting, presented the following report, which was received and adopted :

Your committee begs leave to present the following report :—During the past Synodical year but one of our number has been removed by the hand of death from earth to heaven. Rev. John H. Sykes, of the Mercersburg Classis, suddenly and unexpectedly departed this life on the 10th day of November last, less than a month after the last meeting of the Potomac Synod, whose sessions he attended, and in whose deliberations he took an active part. He died at the house of one of his elders, with whom he was tarrying for a night, and was buried on the 13th of November. Brother Sykes was a native of Yorkshire, England, and born of Christian parents, November 5th, 1834. His age was 46 years and 5 days.

Early in life he became a member of the Church of England. Soon after attaining his majority, he emigrated to this country, and for a time engaged in teaching in Northampton county, Pa. Under the ministry of the late Rev. Dr. Becker, his doctrinal views underwent considerable modification, and he became connected with the Reformed Church. Desirous of consecrating his life to the work of the Holy Ministry, in the spring of 1858, he was taken under the care of the East Pennsylvania Classis, and entered upon a course of study preparatory to the sacred office, in the Allentown Seminary, under the direction of Rev. Wm. R. Hofford, A. M. Here he gave evidence of more than ordinary intellectuality, and employed his time to the best advantage.

In the spring of 1863, Brother Sykes was licensed to preach the gospel, and was ordained to the ministry, and installed as pastor of the Reformed Church in South Easton, on the 28th of May, 1864. His second field of labor was the Somerset charge, Somerset county, Pa., to which he was called in the spring of 1866. In 1867, he removed to Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland county, Pa., having accepted an appointment to a professorship in Westmoreland College, located at that place. Subsequently, on the resignation of the President of that institution, he was elected to the vacant position. Here he labored with his usual zeal and fidelity, and made many sacrifices in the interest of education and the Church. In the fall of 1868, he removed to Martinsburg, Blair county, Pa., having accepted a call from that charge. On the 17th of December, 1873, he was installed as pastor of the Woodcock Valley charge, in Huntingdon county, Pa. In March, 1877, he commenced his ministry in the Greencastle charge, from the labors of which, it pleased the Great Head of the Church, in His own way and time, to call His servant to his rest and reward.

The ministry of Bro. Sykes embraces a period of nearly eighteen years, and is characterized throughout by great earnestness and fidelity. As a preacher and pastor, he served the people in his several charges with acceptance, and, as a consequence, his ministerial career was one of usefulness and success.

“Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.”

Respectfully submitted,

I. S. WEISZ, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Synod of the Potomac returns its hearty thanks to the pastors and members of Trinity and St. Paul's Reformed Churches of Waynes-

boro, and other citizens of the place, for having so hospitably entertained its members and advisory members, during our stay in their midst; and that said pastors be requested to read this action to their respective congregations, as well as have it published in the papers of Waynesboro.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to tender the thanks of this Synod to the Western Maryland, the Mont Alto, the Baltimore and Cumberland Valley, and the Cumberland Valley Railroads for carrying the members of Synod over their respective roads, at reduced rates.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and none were found absent without permission or excuse.

The minutes were then read finally and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted, during the session of Tuesday morning, to wit :

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of the Synod be in General Convention.

Resolved, That when we adjourn finally, it be to meet in Christ Reformed Church of Altoona, Blair county, Pa., on Wednesday evening, October 11th, A. D. 1882, at 7 : 30 o'clock.

The Synod adjourned finally on Tuesday at noon, October 25th, with repeating the Apostles' Creed, joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing the doxology, and Apostolic benediction by the President.

I. G. BROWN, *President.*

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, STATED CLERK.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.
CLASSIS OF ZION.

CLASSIS OF ZION

CLASS OF MARYLAND.

Charge recently formed, and statistics included in the Bedford and St. Clairsville charges.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	CENSUS.	Members.	Unemph'd.	Inf'ts.	Baptisms	Adults.	Contributed.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.		
									Benev.	Purp.	Ques.
Geo. H. Martin, D.D., Henry S. Jno. Rinker, Sam'l N. Calender, D.D., Henry Tallhelm,	4 Woodstock, 1 Lovettsville, 2 Mt. Crawford, 3 Edinburg,	420 123 212 204	260 99 10 7	15 5 2 8	2 2 5 1	370 80 190 1	1 1 3 2	100 60 125 140	297 130 140 140	940 625 550 475	00 00 00 00
John C. Bowman, John A. Hoffeins, Barton R. Carnahan, Samuel L. Whitmore, Vasant,	1 Shepherdstown, 1 Martinsburg, 4 Mill Creek, 2 Middlebrook, 3 Rockingham,	130 232 252 170 247	50 79 31 80 28	5 3 2 4 1	6 6 9 4 9	163 95 195 135 16	1 2 11 5 3	125 40 100 80 5	1 1 1 1 3	125 40 100 80 5	125 40 100 80 5
Abner R. Kremer, Anderson J. Whitmore, John C. Hensell, Lawrence M. Hensell, Joseph S. Loose,	2 Winchester, Mint Spring Mission, Superannuated, Without charge, do	132 86 86 86 do	86 86 86 86 do	1 1 1 1 do	1 1 1 1 do	199 86 86 86 do	1 1 1 1 do	180 180 180 180 do	1 1 1 1 do	180 180 180 180 do	180 180 180 180 do
Andrew J. Bowers, F. E. Vanderloot,											
		2122	926	83	33	68	30	1740	15	31	14
									935		
										1	\$975
											03 \$10448 00

Ministers, 15.

23

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Total, 12.

* Supplied by Revs. J. Ingold and A. S. Vaughan.

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS	CHARGES.	Congrs.	Contributions.						POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.							
			Baptisms	Adults	Inf'ts.	Unconfir'd	Members.	Churc'								
Julius Fuerdeling,	2 San Francisco,	265	665	97	22	26	265	14	12	10	2	537	1	\$140 00	\$2930 00	No. 29 Eleventh St., San Francis',
Conrad F. Waldecker,	1 Stockton,	93	106	19	14	70	2	3	9	1	80	1	23 00	800 00	Stockton, California,	
E. De Geller,	1 Napa,	67	45	4	2	25	2	5	9	1	31	1	12 60	500 00	Napa City, do	
Charles Hartman,	Alameda Mission															Alameda, West End, California.
Total, 4.		425	812	120	22	42	360	18	20	28	4	648	1	\$175 00	\$4230 00	

CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

MINISTERS	CHARGES.	Congrs.	Contributions.						POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.						
			Baptisms	Adults	Inf'ts.	Unconfir'd	Members.	Churc'							
John Ganzenbein,	5 Portland,	157	160	36	4	47	72	5	4	1	60	10 00	\$1100 00	Portland,	Oregon,
Jacob Muellerhaup,	3 Salem,	56	45	17	2	20	40	2	5	1	20	20 00	350 00	Salem,	do
Julius Lange,	3 Meridian,	70	80	5	4	43	45	4	2	2	39		650 00	Stafford, Clackamas Co.,	do
Geo. Meckershoimer,	1 Seattle,	30	31											Seattle,	Washington Ter. Y.
Albert Kreuter,	Assistant to Rev. Ganzenbein													Portland,	Oregon.
Frederick Ewald,	do Rev. Lange,													Stafford, Clackamas Co.,	do
Total, 6.		313	316	58	10	110	157	2	14	6	119		30 00	\$2100 00	

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.
Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministers.	Members.	Unenrolled.	Baptisms.	Adults.		Infants.	Certificates.	Gumundred.	Excommunicated.	Emissaries of Names.	Debts.	Sunday Schools.	Sundays.	Schools.	Students for the Ministry.	Holy Ministry.	Contributions.
					Congregations.	Congregations.												
Zion's,	-	33	79	9,598	6,101	663	50	496	120	7,924	95	38	310	91	6,311	5	\$3,434.40	\$26,539.75
Maryland,	-	28	52	6,362	4,378	403	34	298	99	5,377	85	26	178	47	4,495	3	4,997.00	34,818.00
Mercersburg,	-	33	70	6,710	4,600	372	49	272	155	5,790	117	18	180	57	4,518	9	5,383.63	25,334.04
Virginia,	-	15	23	2,122	926	83	33	68	30	1,740	15	31	14	935	1	975.03	10,448.00	
North Carolina,	-	12	31	2,307	1,122	109	6	62	18	1,784	20	6	36	18	615	3	243.65	1,933.00
San Francisco,	-	4	425	816	120	22	42	360	18	20	28	4	648	1	175.00	4,030.00		
Portland-Oregon,	-	6	12	313	316	58	10	110	157	2	14	6	4	119	1	30.00	2,100.00	
Total, 7 Classes,	-	131	271	27,837	18,259	1,808	172	1,228	574	23,132	352	122	769	235	17,611	23	\$15,238.71	\$105,262.79
Synod of the United States, 9 Classes,	212	438	69,18	39,918	5,372	285	3,585	1128	53,902	527	45	345	2,444	514	40,852	39	35,859.48	238,636.48
Synod of Ohio, 11 Classes,	152	302	21,673	10,323	1,099	340	1,162	724	18,003	306	38	374	414	235	17,725	19	18,816.00	114,630.00
Synod of the North West, 11 Classes,	158	250	24,196	11,996	1,851	22	1,237	828	18,122	289	16	399	641	205	14,028	33	12,109.22	90,133.00
Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes,	67	125	11,594	8,541	869	66	632	410	9,912	221	138	30	103	7,770	13	7,249.00	58,271.00	
German Synod of the East, 5 Classes,	41	40	9,186	5,695	1,712	7	612	391	7,471	60	4	171	391	42	6,674	3665	0	59,390.00
Grand Total, 6 Dist'ry Classes; 48 Classes,	751	1426	163,669	99,732	12,711	912	8,455	4,055	130,542	1,755	103	1,549	4,980	1,334	10,470	127	\$92,937.00	\$666,443.27

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